



Annual Report for FY 2002

Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies

Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center

2002 Holcombe Boulevard (152), Houston, Texas 77030

HSR&D Project # HFP 90-020

Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH, Director

2002 Annual Report

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1 Executive Summary

**Annual Report for FY2002
(October 1, 2001 – September 30, 2002)
Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies
Houston VA Medical Center
2002 Holcombe Blvd (152)
Houston, Texas 77030
Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH, Director**

The Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies continues to meet the challenges posed by our nation's health care system by developing new, insightful research proposals designed to improve quality, access, utilization, and costs. In keeping with the Center's rich tradition of innovation and scientific enlightenment, FY2002 was another successful year for developing the research skills of our investigator team and building our infrastructure to expand our capacity for future achievement. We have raised the bar for ourselves and other HSR institutions by focusing on the impact of our research and targeting our publication/dissemination efforts. Our research continues to impact national policy and healthcare practice in America.

Under the leadership of Carol M. Ashton MD, MPH, the Center of Excellence has continued to grow in size and capability. As our research team leader group has expanded, matured, and diversified, we maintain a keen focus on improving the group's leadership and resource management skills. Concurrently, the Center's senior leaders have sustained a rigorous emphasis on researcher productivity and quality. Investigators remain charged with the explicit expectation that s/he will pursue a personal research agenda, obtain external funding to support that agenda, publish research results in scientific journals, serve in leader/mentor roles, and progress up the academic ladder at Baylor College of Medicine, our partner institution.

After nearly 18 months in the new facility at 2450 Holcombe in the Texas Medical Center, we remain convinced that this facility has improved the unit's culture, productivity, and capability to accomplish our mission. The Houston VAMC, and consequently the Center, remains a member institute of the Texas Medical Center and a primary health care provider for more than 70,000 veterans in the Houston metropolitan area and around the country. In January 2002, the Center convened a Strategic Planning retreat of its key organizational leaders. This retreat served as the appropriate springboard for crystallizing our future actions based on our core values, a clear vision, and a refined mission. Further, this planning effort allowed us to proactively prepare for the FY03 site review and solidify our scientific emphasis.

Center Vision

By 2010, the HCQCUS is an accredited research institution recognized as the leader in producing scientific output and national leaders that directly impact national healthcare policy & delivery.

Center Mission

The Center impacts health and health care by conducting and translating outstanding research and developing influential leaders in health outcomes, quality, access, utilization & costs.

Overview of FY02

The Center's accomplishments during FY02 include:

- A total of 20 new VA grants and contract awards, continuation of 6 VA Career Development Awards, 1 Cooperative Studies Award, 2 NIH Research Scientist Awards, the Office of Academic Affiliations Associated Health Professions Post-doctoral Fellowship Program, 8 Federal non-VA projects, 7 other federal/non-federal/corporate grants and project contracts
- The publication of 68 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, 25 "in-press" articles, and 70 conference presentations/abstracts. Additionally, the results of the NEJM Knee Study article

received over 125 media encounters from throughout the various press/publication venues across the world. In total, the Center and/or its personnel were represented in over 220 dissemination products in FY 2002

- Three new research team leaders and 4 post-doctoral fellows
- Impact on VA and non-VA health care systems
- Continued development of the Measurement Excellence Initiative (MEI) directed by Kimberly O'Malley, PhD. and designed to improve overall quality of measurement in the HSR&D community of scientists
- Refinement and direction of the Research Excellence Initiative (REI). The continuous improvement initiative has redefined our approach to developing our scientists and building the capacity of this Center. We have the standards that qualitatively define and measure the outcomes from this Center and serve as the model of excellence to all HSR&D units

Organization and Infrastructure

During FY2002, the Center leaders worked diligently to develop the organization's infrastructure to meet the current and projected goals. In years past, the centralized process and design of the infrastructure was appropriate because oversight of the few personnel and projects remained at a manageable state. As we've grown, the need to increase and broaden responsibilities to functional area experts within the administration has proven beneficial in gaining productivity, innovation, and operational efficiency. Also driving our infrastructure changes were the unique and inventive operational goals created to expand dissemination, business development, and leadership skill training activities.

Director, Dr. Carol Ashton, leads the Center and Section Chief, Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH, leads the Section as our Baylor College of Medicine partner. In early FY01, Drs. Wray and Ashton formed the Team Leader Advisory Council (TLAC) as a representative body for team leaders. In FY02, this group matured and was instrumental in developing operational paradigms aimed at the advancement of our scientific efforts, directing the administrative priorities, and improving grant productivity. Associate Director, Michael L. Johnson, PhD, continues to lead the TLAC efforts to provide substantive input to the executive team on issues of importance to the investigator group. In FY02, the TLAC placed significant emphasis on the goals of the strategic plan and have remained a catalyst group in meeting the tactical actions spelled out in the plan. Additionally, the Center's operations/administration section is well established in their new, de-centralized structure and has improved in the areas of responsiveness, information accuracy, and external partnering. W. Keith Neeley, MBA continues as the Chief Operating Officer and Angelita Vinluan, CPA, as the unit's Chief Financial Officer. As the nation has faced unique challenges in a post-9/11 FY02, so too has our unit as we've attempted to deal with the challenges of sustainable, interdependent financial growth and capacity expansion of the Center.

The COO provides administrative and strategic oversight of the following internal functional areas led by the management team:

- Nancy Petersen, PhD, Chief of Statistical Analysis and Data Processing Staff
- Diana Densmore, MPH, Chief of Project Staff
- Paul Gregor, PhD, Chief Information Officer
- Angelita Vinluan, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- Matt Price, MS, Chief Communications Officer
- Shannon Dwyer, BA, Chief of Business Development

The organization's structure enables the research team leaders to direct their teams in the execution of research projects and the management team to lead the support efforts in the areas of administration, finance, strategic planning, and tactical execution. Some of the key accomplishments of our administration team include:

1. Systems and Process Development:
 - a. An Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) database that facilitates effective information flow while supporting our financial and HR activities.

- b. Internal Compliance Audit process that enables us to meet sponsor compliance requirements while enhancing the integrity of our projects.
- c. Performance Management program that formalizes direct, qualitative input from investigators on the performance of their project team. This program ties into our training and development program as well as the awards and recognition process.
- d. Communication: Improving the way we share and distribute information by using inter- and *intra*-net features at our website. Also, development of policies and procedures for dissemination efforts has served to improve the quality, frequency, and breadth of our publication efforts.
- e. Comprehensive Policy and Procedure manual that standardizes and inculcates our operating model while enabling the cross-functional training of our staff. In FY03, we will rollout this document and define the mechanism to update and modify as the organizational needs adjust to a dynamic market.

2. Culture Shifting:

- a. Refining our strategic focus with the development of our core values, a well-defined vision and a bias towards our new mission has enabled us to move to a focus on results by utilizing efficient processes.
- b. De-centralizing the ownership and responsibility for support operations is enhancing leadership skills while sustaining synergy among responsible functional area leaders.
- c. Consistent and pointed progress review meetings coupled with the performance management systems are helping maintain our strategic and tactical focus.
- d. Development and execution of the internal Employee Satisfaction Survey (ESS). This process enabled us to get clear guidance from our entire team on where we need to focus support resources and to what priorities we must attend. The results of this survey have provided increased momentum on strategic objectives and in some cases, stimulated a modification based on customer needs.

As the expertise and teamwork of our group increases over the coming years, we remain certain that efficiency and operational innovation will continue. Our potential for growth and capacity is limitless at this point.

Investigators

For FY02, the Center had 30 research team leaders, 12 from non-clinical disciplines and 18 from clinical disciplines. Center investigators have their primary academic appointments at Baylor College of Medicine, in the Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research, and the Center maintains close ties with the University of Texas School of Public Health.

The Center is extremely proud of its Career Development Awardees. Among the highlights for FY02 are:

- Dr. Howard Gordon's VA Advanced Career Development Award
- Drs. Paul Haidet, Hashem El-Serag, and Lynn Snow's VA Career Development Awards.
- Dr. Anita Deswal's VA Cooperative Studies Clinical Research Career Development Award.

We are proud of our mix of research team leaders in the organization. The breadth of expertise and interest provides an appropriate balance in our efforts to seek and develop appropriate projects within the Center. In the coming year, we plan to add a health economist to replace the loss of both in late FY02, a sociologist and an additional physician.

Computer Information Systems

The Center of Excellence computer system, known as the Health Services Research Computing Center (HSRCC), is led by Paul J. Gregor, PhD.

The HSRCC provides support for a wide range of information acquisition, analysis, and reporting activities. The HSRCC comprises a network of Unix and NT servers, office and common-area PCs, and shared printers and other devices.

The Center's Computing Network enables the staff to access all of our servers. Our connection to the HVAMC LAN facilitates our ready access to other VA information systems (such as the Austin Automation Center). From the hardware perspective, the system has dual CPUs with 2.25 GB of RAM and approximately 250GB of storage space. Another Unix processor on the network hosts an *Intranet* web site for distribution of certain types of information among Center staff. The system also includes two Intel-based file-and-print servers that run under Windows NT. These servers provide disk storage for sharing documents and administrative information among Center staff. All investigators have desktop PCs and printers to enable their individual efforts in many areas. Laptop computers are also available for use while traveling.

Center systems have been configured for high reliability and maintainability and to guard against data loss. Parallel components and processors enable the system to continue operation in the event of major component failures. The Center also has an automated tape library for automatic daily backup of the HP system and the NT file servers. In FY02, the HSRCC purchased additional capacity infrastructure to accommodate the additional load created by the increase in projects, investigators, and support staff. We look to the coming 2 years as ones of even greater expansion and processing capability requirement based on our growth/utilization pattern.

Research Dissemination

For FY02, The Center published, provided, or has in press over 220 dissemination actions in various venues including peer-reviewed journals, technical reports, and television/radio/internet news agencies. The Center staff gave over 200 lectures or presentations. A more detailed discussion our products, dissemination efforts, and impact is provided in Section 5 of this report.

Education and Training

The Center's Education and Training activities are led by Dr. A. Lynn Snow, PhD, Assistant Director for Education Programs. The centerpiece of our Center's training activity is its VA funded post-doctoral fellowship program for non-clinician PhDs. Additionally, the mission of the Section includes: clinical fellows training, pre-doctoral training, emphasis on training of and collaboration with minority students and faculty, and the Center's mentoring program. You can find more detail on our training efforts in Section 7 of this report.

Leadership Roles

The investigators at the HCQCUS remain prominent leaders on national research committees, editorial review boards, and within academic associations. Many of the senior investigators are leaders in their respective fields of expertise while providing substantive input to national research organizations. Please find more detail on the Houston Center's leaders and leadership activities in Section 6 of this report.

Future Plans

In FY03, the Center will undergo its funding renewal review and reverse site visit. We are excited about this opportunity to share our accomplishments and confirm our status as the premiere HSR Center in the nation. Further, we recognize that the event provides impetus for us to more clearly define our mission and develop the strategic and tactical actions necessary to achieve this mission. In October 2002, the External Advisory Committee will reconvene to examine our accomplishments, assess the strategic goals of our Center, and facilitate an objective review of our future plans. We embrace the contribution they will bring to our efforts.

Armed with the External Advisory Committee's review and 2002 Strategic Planning Committee's efforts to the efficacy and utility of our strategic plan, we look forward to another leader's retreat to confirm our strategic direction. Our goal once again is to refresh our commitment to the opportunities we face in the quest to truly live our mission statement.

While FY02 was a terrific year for developing processes, structure, and standards, FY03 will be our year for disciplined execution and scientific productivity. We will hire additional investigators and project

support staff dedicated to research that impacts practice. Our translation and dissemination efforts in FY03 will set a new standard for quality, breadth, and influence across disciplines in the health care community. To facilitate this goal, we will continue our work on the Research Excellence Initiative (REI) with particular emphasis in continuous professional development and definitive performance measurement of our activities.

We remain extremely proud of what the REI has done to advance the Center's planning and coordination and mentoring activities. We continue our diligence in qualitatively defining excellence using acceptable metrics recognized in the scientific community. Further, we remain committed to the development of our team. The REI Professional Development group provides outstanding seminars aimed at advancing skills and qualities we desire in our organization while also disseminating best practices from current projects. Topic areas for these professional development seminars included a five-week effective writing workshop; project management; mentoring; VA and Baylor funding perspectives, successful leadership skills and many others. We value these areas as mechanisms to drive our continuous improvement efforts and advance the capability of this unit and the VHA HSR&D section as a whole.

Lastly, FY03 must be the year we diversify our funding streams. Dependence on soft money grants and contracts is a reality that puts a high degree of pressure on research team leaders to generate funding and on top management to monitor and spend funds wisely. We will make advances in our business development goals in 3 areas; philanthropic support, institutional commitment, and community involvement.

We have laid a solid foundation from which we can accomplish all of the goals we describe above. FY2003 is the year of execution, results, and delivery. The teams are in place, they are well equipped, and most importantly, they understand what we need to do. I join the team in their excitement and optimism for the future as we make 2003 our year of unprecedented scientific impact.

Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
HCQCUS Director

2 Investigators

“A heart is judged not by how much it loves, but by how much it is loved by others.” -The Wizard of Oz

In addition to being a community of scientists, our organization is a community of people who care. We join together in good times and support each other during difficulties. We anticipate the needs of others within our community and we offer each other compassion and encouragement. We are more than an organization. We are a family.

–Carol M. Ashton

–Nelda P. Wray

–Michael L. Johnson

The Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies comprises eight functional teams:

- Executive Team
- Management Team
- Investigator Team (Core)
- Post-Doctoral Fellow Team (Trainees)
- Programming Team
- Project Team
- Information Technology Team
- Administrative Support Team

In addition to the eight teams, the Center also includes:

- Other Project Staff
- Affiliate Investigators
- Volunteers
- Summer Students

The executive team comprises Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH, director of the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies; Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH, chief of the Section of Health Services, Baylor College of Medicine; and Michael L. Johnson, PhD, associate director of the Center. These three executive team members also maintain dual responsibilities as core investigators.

W. Keith Neely, MBA, assistant director for Finance and Administration and chief operating officer leads the management team. The team has responsibility for administrative support, business development, communications and public relations, education, finance, human resources, information technology, as well as statistical analysis and data processing (programming), and project staff support.

Our scientific investigators and post-doctoral fellows are the foundation and the acclaim of our Center of Excellence. The sections that follow detail their accomplishments.

The current members of the eight teams and the Center's other organizational groups, as of September 30, 2002, are listed below. Please refer to the organizational chart that follows.

Executive Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Carol Ashton	MD, MPH	Director, HCQCUS	1990
Nelda Wray	MD, MPH	Chief, Baylor Section of Health Services Research	1990
Michael Johnson	PhD	Associate Director, HCQCUS	1992

Management Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
W. Keith Neeley	MBA	Assistant Director, Administration and Finance; Chief Operating Officer	2001
Dianna Densmore	MS	Chief of Project Staff (and Project Manager)	2002
Shannon Dwyer	BA	Chief of Business Development	1993
Theresa Foss	BS	HR/Office Manager	2001
Paul Gregor	PhD	Chief Information Officer	1998
Nancy Petersen	PhD	Chief of Statistical Analysis and Data Processing	1990
Matt Price	MS	Chief Communications Officer	1995
A. Lynn Snow	PhD	Assistant Director for Education	2000
Angelita Vinluan	BA (CPA)	Chief Financial Officer	2000

Investigator Team (Core)

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Carol Ashton	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1990
Rebecca Beyth	MD, MS	Senior Scientist	1999
Ursula Braun	MD	Senior Scientist	2001
Tracie Collins	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1998
Anita Deswal	MD	Senior Scientist	2000
Nancy Jo Dunn	PhD	Senior Scientist	1997
Hashem El-Serag	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1999
Marvella Ford	PhD	Senior Scientist	2002
Thomas Giordano	MD	Senior Scientist	2002
Laura Goetzl	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	2000
Howard Gordon	MD	Senior Scientist	1996
Paul Haidet	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1998
Michael Johnson	PhD	Senior Scientist	1992
P. Adam Kelly	PhD, MBA	Senior Scientist	2001
Mark Kunik	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1999
Terri Menke	PhD	Senior Scientist	1991
Robert Morgan	PhD	Senior Scientist	1999
Kimberly O'Malley	PhD	Senior Scientist	1999

Herminia Palacio	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	2001
Laura Petersen	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1998
Nancy Petersen	PhD	Senior Scientist	1990
Ken Pietz	PhD	Senior Scientist	1994
A. Lynn Snow	PhD	Senior Scientist	2000
Julianne Soucek	PhD	Senior Scientist	1993
Maria Suarez-Almazor	MD, PhD	Senior Scientist	1999
Nelda Wray	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1990
Mary York	PhD	Senior Scientist	2001

Post-Doctoral Fellow Team (Trainees)

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Serena Chu	PhD	Post Doc/Fellow	2001
Jessica Davila	PhD	Post Doc/Fellow	2001
Maria Garcia Popa-Lisseanu	MD	Post Doc/Fellow	2002
Karen Garibaldi	MD	Post Doc/Fellow	2002
Paul J. Rowan	PhD	Post Doc/Fellow	2002
LeChauncy Woodard	MD, MPH	Post Doc/Fellow	2001

Programming Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Mark Kuebeler	MS	Programming Staff	1999
Meei Ku-Goto	MS	Programming Staff	1993
Harlan Nelson	MS	Programming Staff	1998
Peter Richardson	PhD	Programming Staff	1999
Michael Thompson	MS	Programming Staff	1999
Diana Urbauer	MS	Programming Staff	2001
Iris Wei	DrPH	Programming Staff	1991
Hong-Jen Yu	MS	Programming Staff	1992

Project Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Abeer Alsarraj	BS	Project Staff	2001
Dianna Bufkin	AS	Project Staff	1997
Loralee Capistrano	BS	Project Staff	1999
Junaia Carter	BS	Project Staff	2001
Heather Dyson		Project Staff	2002
Sharon Eason	MPH	Project Staff	2001
Lauren Elissa	MPH	Project Staff	2002
Sunshine Gage	BS	Project Staff	2002
Alicia Gladney	MS	Project Staff	2001
Dolly Ann John	MPH	Project Staff	2001

Ken Kato	BS	Project Staff	2002
Nancy Logan	MA	Project Staff	2001
J. Elizabeth Martin		Project Staff	1999
Ellen Matthiesen	BA	Project Staff	1999
Pauline O'Reilly		Project Staff	2001
Chong Pak	MPH	Project Staff	2001
Yvette Pinales		Project Staff	2000
Louise Quijano	MSW	Project Staff	2002
Kimberly Raiford	MA	Project Staff	2002
Siddharta Reddy	MPH	Project Staff	2000
Marsha Richardson	MSW	Project Staff	2001
Supicha Sookanan	MPH	Project Staff	2001
Linda Stelljes	MA	Project Staff	1999
Mary Torres		Project Staff	2000
Tracy Urech	BA	Project Staff	2001
Connie Veazey	MA	Project Staff	2002
Darrell Zeno	MS	Project Staff	2001

Information Technology Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Jerry Turner		IT Staff	1997
Chris Williams	BA	IT Staff	1999

Administrative Support Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Tracy Barrera		Travel Coordinator and Administrative Assistant	2002
Barbara Chamberlin		Administrative Assistant to Team Leaders	2000
Aida DeLeon	BBA	Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable	2001
Regina Drake	AAS	Administrative Assistant to Team Leaders	2001
April Hernandez		Team Leader Support	2001
Lindsay Hommel	BS	Pre-Grant Development	2001
Terrion Knight		Receptionist	2002
Tamara Lavin	BS	Administrative Assistant/Recruiter	2002
Rhonda O'Donovan		Executive Assistant to Chief of Health Services Research	1997
Rose Peralta		Accounting Assistant	2002
Kimberly Ramsey	BS	Administrative Assistant to Pre- Grant Development	2002

Marie Rogers	Administrative Assistant to Chief Operating Officer	2002
Diane Simmons	Executive Assistant to Directors	2002

Other Project Staff

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Coreen Domingo	MPH	EXCEED Program Coordinator	2002
Donna Espadas	BA	CHF QUERI Center Manager	1998
Frank Martin	MS	Director, IDEAL Core	1998

Affiliate Investigators

Name	Degree	Title
Julie Aniol	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Margaret Byrne	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Baruch Brody	MD	Affiliate Investigator
Karon Cook	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Joseph Hamilton	MD	Affiliate Investigator
Douglas Mann	MD	Affiliate Investigator
Laurence McCullough	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Nora Osemene	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Debora Paterniti	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Lynn Rehm	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Barbara Sharf	PhD	Affiliate Investigator

Volunteers

Name		Title	Hire Date
Rayan Al Jurdi	MD	Volunteer, COPD Study	2002
Jan Weber	MD	Volunteer, COPD Study	2002

Summer Students

The HCQCUS summer student program was established to offer young relatives and friends of HCQCUS staff an opportunity to improve future employment prospects while encouraging higher education, particularly in health-related fields of study. The 2002 summer student program, lead by Dianna Densmore, chief of project staff, was very successful. Fourteen high school and undergraduate students were employed over the course of the summer and performed a wide variety of tasks, from organizational tasks to data entry to extensive literature searches and reviews. The Center leadership has always been an advocate of fostering an environment where young students can become involved in our successful health services research organization. It is our hope that the small role we play in their development will have an impact on their future career choices. The following letter, received from a summer student following his tenure at the Center this year, says it best...

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August 16, 2002

Dear Dr. Ashton:

I'm sorry I was not able to talk to you in person today, but I hope this quick letter will convey what I meant to tell you.

I wanted to let you know how thankful and appreciative I am for the opportunity to work here over the summer. The project staff and doctors I worked with were always inviting, willing to teach, and went out of their way to make sure I was a legitimate member of the project, rather than simply a student passing through. I've had the chance to do a number of difficult, creative, and fun projects – from designing brochures and surveys to actually going out into the field. Going out with you and Darrell Zeno for the IDEAL Core presentation was truly informative: I've realized not only what a broad and vital field of health services research can cover, but also that it is possible for only a few dedicated persons to make a world of difference. The doctors and persons I've met at HCQCUS over the past summer are all dedicated and purposeful; there is a wonderful sense of accomplishment and mission here, and I am proud to have experienced it (if only for a summer).

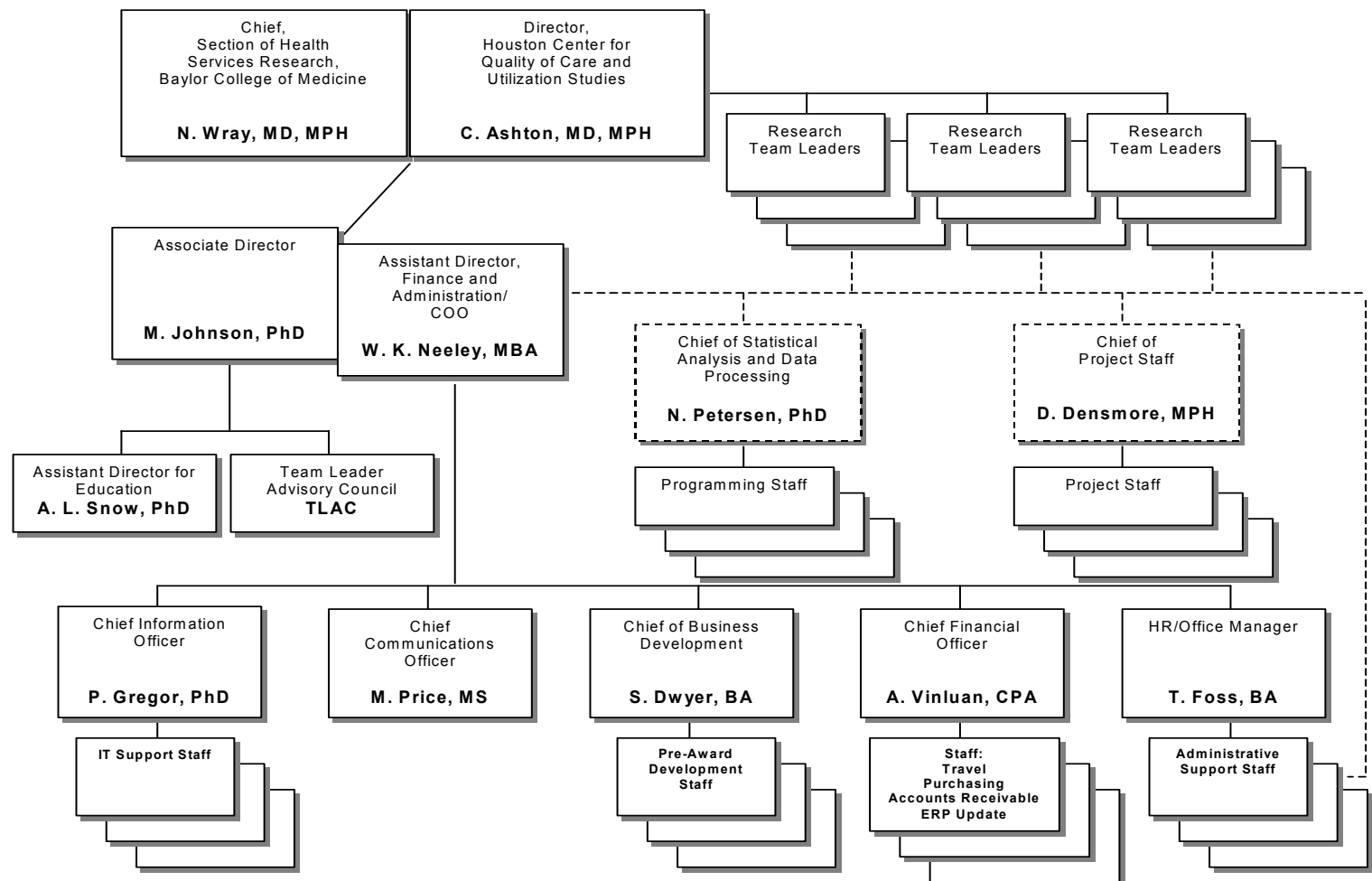
Spending the summer here has opened my eyes to a career in public health, and hopefully I will one day have the opportunity to contribute to so many lives, just as the doctors, project staff, and yourself have done in the past few months. Thank you for a fantastic summer!

Sincerely,

Scott Simpson
Yale University

2.1 Organizational Chart

Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies
Effective Date: 8-15-02



2.2 Investigators (Table 1)

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP		
Core Investigator(s)							
Cheryl B. Anderson	PhD	Researcher		Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine	1999	0.05	DRE(s): Prevention INTERESTS: Behavior and Behavioral Mechanisms Children's Health Cultural Diversity Depression Effects of Exercise on Functional Status and Injury Risk Health Behavior Patient Compliance Physical Activity Research Design Risk Factors Women's Health
				** Left COE In 2002			
Carol M. Ashton	MD, MPH	Director (COE)	Staff Physician, General Medicine Section, Houston VA Medical Center Deputy Associate Chief of Staff, for Research and Development, Houston VAMC	Professor, Department of Medicine and Medical Ethics, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Professor, The University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston	1990	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Quality of Care Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Databases Disparities in Treatments Evidence-Based Medicine Health Care Policy Health Services Accessibility Health Services Needs and Outcome Assessment (Health Physician Practice Patterns Physician-Patient Relations Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Rebecca J. Beyth	MD, MS	Affiliate Investigator - Part-time Physician	Staff Physician - Part-time	Assistant Professor of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999	0.30	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Epidemiology Quality of Care Communication and Decision Making Prevention
Ursula K. Braun	MD	Physician-Health Services	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2001	0	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Treatment
Tracie C. Collins	MD, MPH	Physician-Health Services	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1998		DRA(s): Special (Underserved, High Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Etiology Epidemiology INTERESTS: Cardiovascular Diseases Cerebrovascular Disorders Chronic Disease Clinical Decision-Making Health Services Research Lower Extremity Amputation Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Acceptance of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Anita Deswal	MD	Physician-Health Services	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2000	1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Treatment Quality of Care Etiology Pathophysiology INTERESTS: Cardiology Clinical Trials Outcomes Measurement Racial Differences in Care
Nancy Jo Dunn	PhD	Research	Clinical Psychologist, Houston VAMC	Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Adjunct Faculty, Department of Psychology, University of	1997	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Mental Illness Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Treatment INTERESTS: Comorbidity Depression Stress Disorders, Post-Traumatic Treatment Outcome

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Hashem B. El-Serag	MD, MPH	Health Services Researcher	Staff Physician, Medical Service, Gastroenterology	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999	1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Etiology Resource Use and Cost Treatment INTERESTS: Clinical Decision-Making Comorbidity Cost-Benefit Databases Evidence-Based Medicine Hepatitis C Neoplasms Outcome Assessment (Health
Marvella E. Ford	PhD, MS, MSW	Health Services Researcher		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2002		DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High INTERESTS: Access to Primary Care and Preventive Services Aging Cancer Prevention and Control Cultural Diversity Health Behavior Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Related Quality of Life Mammography Minority Health Psychometrics

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Thomas P. Giordano	MD, BS	Physician -Health Services	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2002	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Treatment INTERESTS: Disparities in Treatments Health Outcomes Health Services Accessibility Health Services Research HIV/AIDS Impacts of New Drug/Technology on AIDS Infectious Disease Minority Health Racial Differences in Care
Laura Goetzl	MD, MPH	Physician - Health Services	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics&Gynecology, Baylor College of Medicine	2000	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Epidemiology Pathophysiology Treatment INTERESTS: Women's Health Women's Health Services

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Howard S. Gordon	MD, SB	Research Associate (Clinician Scientist - Level I)	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Baylor Department of Medicine	1996	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Advance Directives Behavior Benchmarking Cardiovascular Diseases Clinical Decision-Making Comorbidity Databases Health Behavior Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Services Accessibility Health Services Research Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice Low Back Pain Lower Extremity Amputation Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Acceptance of Health Care Physician Practice Patterns Physician-Patient Relations Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Risk Adjustment

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Paul Haidet	MD, MPH	Clinical Researcher Medical Educator	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Baylor Department of Medicine	1998	1	United States Department of Veteran Affairs DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Prevention Quality of Care INTERESTS: Advance Directives Ambulatory Care Behavior Evidence-Based Medicine Health Behavior Health Care Seeking Behavior Medical Education Medical Ethics Patient Education Patient Satisfaction Physician-Patient Relations Professional-Patient Relations Teaching

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Michael L. Johnson	PhD	Associate Director, Center of Excellence Research Health Science Specialist		Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research	1992	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Biostatistics Chronic Disease Databases Health Services Research Outcome Assessment (Health Practice Patterns Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Research Design Risk Adjustment

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
P. Adam Kelly	PhD, MBA, BS	Research Scientist (Non-Clinician Phd)	Research Health Science Specialist	Instructor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2002		DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Technology Development and Assessment INTERESTS: Assessment Education Health Care Evaluation and Measurement Health Services Research Human Subjects Protection Patient-Centered Physician-Patient Relations Program Evaluation Psychometrics Statistics
Mark E. Kunik	MD, MPH	Senior Research Associate	Staff Physician	Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences	1999	1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Mental Illness DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Treatment INTERESTS: Alzheimer's Disease Behavioral Chronic Disease Dementia Depression Health Services Research Treatment Outcome

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Terri J. Menke	PhD	Research	Research Health Science Specialist	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor	1991	0.2	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Cost-Benefit Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Care Policy Health Services Accessibility Health Services Research HIV/AIDS Managed Care Programs United States Department of Veteran Affairs Utilization and Cost of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Robert O. Morgan	PhD	Health Services Researcher	Statistician	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Medical School	1999	0.63	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Accidental Falls Advance Directives Ambulatory Care Behavior Behavior and Behavioral Mechanisms Best Practices Chronic Disease Clinical Decision-Making Comorbidity Cost-Benefit Cost-Effectiveness of Primary Care Cross-Cultural Comparison Cultural Diversity Databases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Dementia Depression Diffusion of Effects of Exercise on Functional Status and Injury Risk Emergency Medical Services Evidence-Based Medicine Fall-Related Injuries in the Elderly Frail Elderly Health Behavior Health Care Costs and Cost Analysis

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
						Health Care Evaluation Mechanisms Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Services Needs and Health Services Research Managed Care Programs Medical Education Organizational Policy Outcome Assessment (Health Physician Practice Patterns Physician-Patient Relations Population Characteristics Public Policy Research Design Risk Adjustment Risk Factors Sample Size Telemedicine Treatment Outcome Utilization and Cost of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Kimberly J. O'Malley	PhD, MS, BS	Research Health Science Specialist	Psychometrician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999	0.62	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Epidemiology Treatment Communication and Decision Making INTERESTS: Behavior Best Practices Clinical Decision-Making Databases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Behavior Health Services Needs and Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice Multicenter Study Pain Patient Satisfaction Physician Practice Patterns Quality of Life Sample Size Teaching Treatment Outcome United States Department of Veteran Affairs
Herminia Palacio	MD, MPH	Physician, Department of Medicine	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2001		DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Epidemiology Resource Use and Cost

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Laura A. Petersen	MD, MPH	Research Associate (Clinician Scientist - Level II)	Staff Physician	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor	1998	1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Epidemiology Quality of Care Treatment Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Benchmarking Best Practices Cardiovascular Diseases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Services Accessibility Health Services Needs and Outcome Assessment (Health Physician Practice Patterns Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Quality of Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Nancy J. Petersen	PhD	Assistant Director for Statistical Analysis and Data Biostatistician, HCQCUS		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1990	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Resource Use and Cost Epidemiology Quality of Care INTERESTS: Assessment Biostatistics Chronic Heart Comorbidity Controlled Clinical Trial Databases Patient Outcomes Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Risk Adjustment Utilization and Cost of Health Care
Kenneth C. Pietz	PhD	Biostatistician	Statistician - Medicine	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1994	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Biostatistics Clinical Trials Cost and Utilization Health Care Costs and Cost Analysis Health Economics Hierarchical Statistical Models Statistical Methodology Statistical Models Statistical Theory and Methodology Statistics

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Linda Rabeneck	MD, MPH	Senior Research Associate (Clinician Scientist, Level II)	Staff Physician	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor	1990	1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Pathophysiology INTERESTS: Clinical Decision-Making Controlled Clinical Trial Outcome Assessment (Health
				** Left COE In 2002			
A. Lynn Snow	PhD	Assistant Director for Education Research Health Science Specialist	Research Health Science Specialist	Instructor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine	2000	1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Mental Illness Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Treatment Quality of Care INTERESTS: Assessment Dementia Long-Term Care Outcome Assessment (Health Pain Psychometrics Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Research Design

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Julianne Soucek	PhD	Biostatistician	Statistician - Medicine	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor	1993	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Communication and Decision Making INTERESTS: Health Care Evaluation Mechanisms Health Services Research Meta-Analysis Randomized Controlled Trial Research Design Risk Factors Sample Size Statistical Methodology Utilization and Cost of Health Care
Maria E. Suarez-Almazor MD, PhD		Research Physician		Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor	1999	0	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Diagnosis and Prognosis Quality of Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Nelda P. Wray	MD, MPH	Physician-Health Services QUERI Research Coordinator	Chief, General Medicine Section, Medical Service, VAMC Houston	Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine Chief, Section of Health Services Research, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine Professor of Medical Ethics, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Professor (Health Services), the University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston	1990	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Advance Directives Behavior Behavior and Behavioral Mechanisms Benchmarking Chronic Disease Clinical Competence Controlled Clinical Trial Cost-Benefit Cross-Cultural Comparison Databases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Behavior Health Care Costs and Cost Analysis Health Care Policy Health Services Needs and Health Services Research Medical Ethics Multicenter Study Neoplasms Organization and Management Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Satisfaction Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Product Line Management Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Mary J. York	PhD, MA, BS	Senior Research Career Scientist (Non-Clinician Phd)	Health Science Specialist	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2001	1	Quality of Life Randomized Controlled Trial Research Design Risk Adjustment Risk Factors DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost INTERESTS: Chronic Heart Evidence-Based Medicine Health Services Research Hierarchical Statistical Models Organizational Innovation Outcomes Measurement Patient Compliance Patient Quality of Life Outcome Measures Quality of Care Statistical Models

* FTEE refers to percentage of time devoted to HSR&D that is paid by the VA

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined	FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Affiliate Investigator(s)								
Julie C. Aniol	PhD	Post Doctoral	Trainee	Instructor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine ** Left COE In 2002	2000		0	DRA(s): Mental Illness DRE(s): Quality of Care Treatment INTERESTS: Adult Anxiety and Mood Disorders Anxiety Behavioral Dementia Depression
Margaret M. Byrne	PhD	Research	Research	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine ** Left COE In 2002	1996			DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Communication and Decision Making INTERESTS: Behavior Cost-Benefit Financial Incentives Health Services Research Medical Ethics Policy Making
Karon F. Cook	PhD, MA	Affiliate Investigator		Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Baylor College of Medicine	1996		1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): Rehabilitation INTERESTS: Computer Intensive Statistical Method Health Services Research Outcome Assessment (Health Quality of Life Research Design
Mark Dunlap	MD							

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Joseph D. Hamilton	MD	Physician	Mental Health Care Line Executive	Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Baylor		0.05	INTERESTS: Mental Illness
Douglas L. Mann	MD	QUERI Clinical Coordinator/Affiliate Investigator	Chief, Section of Cardiology	Professor of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine ** Left COE In 2002	1998	0.05	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Etiology Prevention Technology Development and Assessment INTERESTS: Cardiology Cardiovascular Diseases Comorbidity
Laurence McCullough	PhD	Affiliate Investigator - Without Compensation	Staff Associate for Long-Term Care Research, Houston VAMC	Professor of Medicine, and Medical Ethics, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston Faculty Associate, Huffington Center on Aging, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Professor of Ethics in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cornell University Medical College, New York	1997	0	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making INTERESTS: Frail Elderly Medical Ethics Physician-Patient Relations
Nora Inyang Osemene	PhD	Research Scientist		Assistant Professor	2001		DRA(s): Health Services and Systems

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2002

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Debora A. Paterniti	PhD	Affiliate Investigator		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1997	0.1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care INTERESTS: Advance Directives Cross-Cultural Comparison Cultural Diversity Health Behavior Health Care Policy Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Services Research Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice Long-Term Care Medical Education Medical Ethics Medical Sociology Patient Acceptance of Health Care Patient Compliance Patient Education Patient Satisfaction Physician-Patient Relations Professional-Patient Relations Quality of Life Research Design Women's Health
Lynn P. Rehm	PhD	Co-Investigator			1997	0.2	
Barbara Sharf	PhD		Co-Investigator		2000	0.3	

* FTEE refers to percentage of time devoted to HSR&D that is paid by the VA

Count = 40

3 Center Funding

During FY02, the Center has continued its success in obtaining funding from various funding streams outside the annual core allocation from the VA HSR&D Service and contributions from the Houston VA Medical Center – namely, VA research grants; research grants from other federal agencies; eight career development grants; and VISN contract agreements. We attribute this success to an outstanding cadre of investigators on staff who are dedicated to supporting the missions of VHA Headquarters, the various VISN programs, VISN 16, and the Houston VA Medical Center. The Houston Center now has eight funding streams: 1) annual core allocation from the VA HSR&D Service in VA Headquarters; 2) VA research grants; 3) research grants from other federal agencies; 4) research grants from philanthropic foundations and drug study companies; 5) VA and non-VA training grants and career development grants; 6) project contracts with VA entities; 7) contributions from the Houston VA Medical Center; and 8) university contributions from Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research.

The total budget for the Houston Center of Excellence for FY02 was \$9,310,165. This includes \$6,864,189 in project-generated funds, an approximate ratio of 11:1 of leveraged project funding to HSR&D Core funding. The FY02 budget reflects a 7.1% increase from FY01. The largest growth is in federal non-VA funding, which increased from \$2,193,775 in FY01 to \$3,131,095 in FY02, primarily due to two multi-year AHRQ research grants, followed by an increase in NIH due to the receipt of four new grants.

Funding from contractual projects with VISNs increased from \$525,154 in FY01 to \$574,645 in FY02. SDR funding continued to decline, to \$246,975, down from \$323,532 five years ago, while IIR funding continued to increase, to \$735,631, up from \$411,018 five years ago.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Center had a total of over \$18 million dollars under review in grant applications. Breakdown for total direct costs were \$14,229,966 and total indirect costs were \$4,185,936. The Center estimates that it should always have under review, approximately 2 to 3 times its current operating budget, assuming approval rates on grant submissions of 25% to 33%.

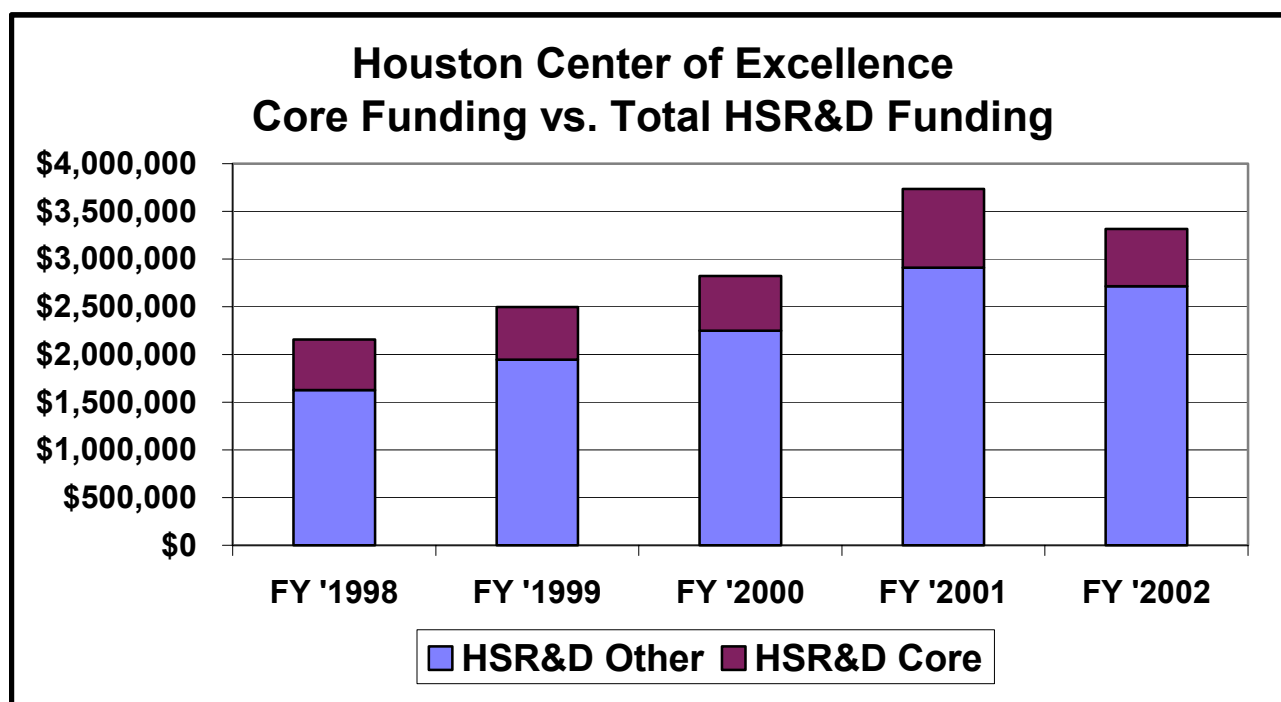
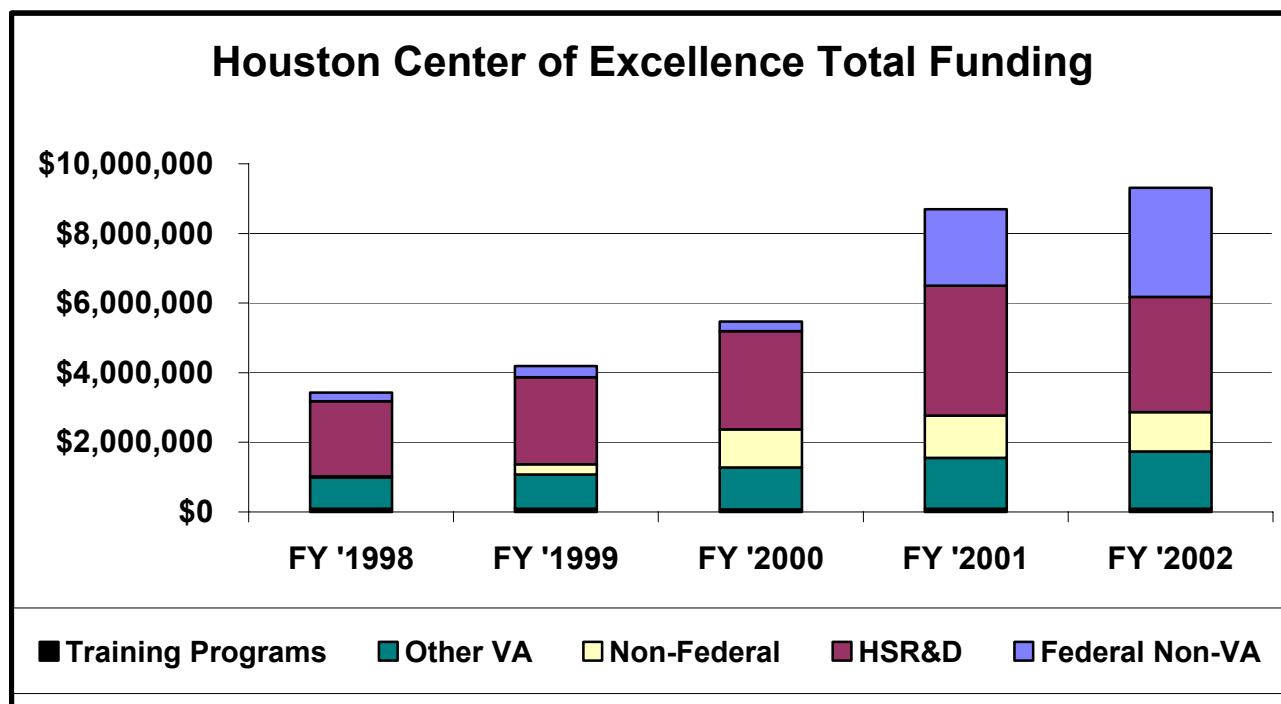
3.1 Budget Information (Table 2)

Houston Center of Excellence Budget Information

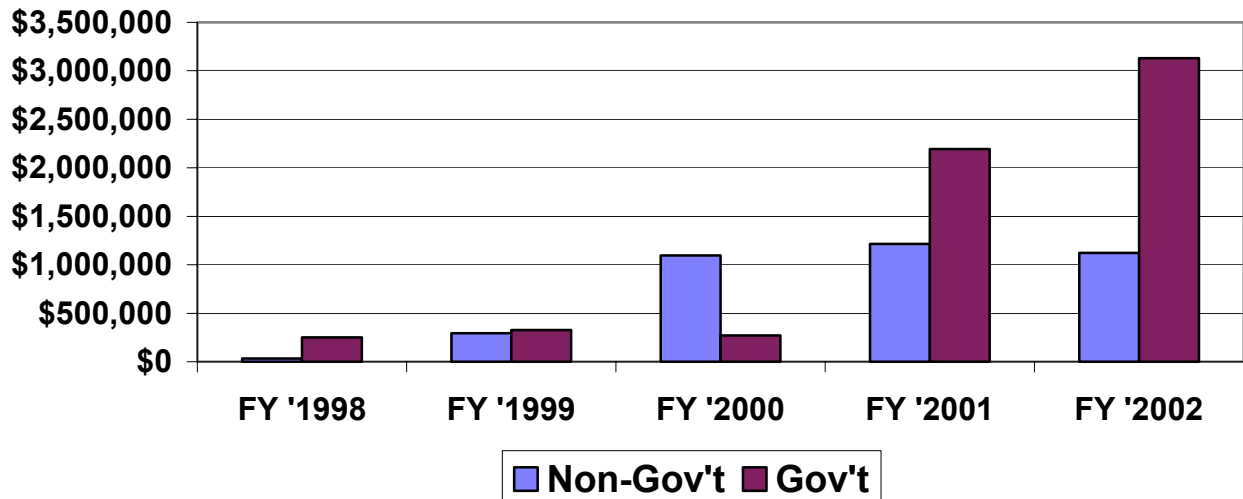
	Fiscal Year Funding					Number Of Projects				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Funding Source(s)										
HSR&D										
Core	\$531,374	\$550,000	\$571,551	\$825,000	\$600,000	1	1	1	1	1
Supplemental Funds	\$393,134	\$76,518	\$313,437	\$188,500	\$70,000	1	1	2	1	1
IIR	\$411,018	\$482,542	\$659,167	\$777,881	\$735,631	4	8	7	5	10
SDR	\$323,532	\$330,326	\$170,067	\$69,525	\$246,975	3	3	3	1	1
MDRC	\$84,961	\$72,353	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	1	0	0	0
Career Development	\$214,293	\$573,907	\$641,125	\$862,827	\$770,184	3	5	4	6	6
Career Scientist	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,542	\$0	0	0	0	1	0
AIA	\$0	\$0	\$13,774	\$55,096	\$49,000	0	0	1	1	1
NRI	\$64,051	\$38,439	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	1	0	0	0
LIP - HSR&D	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,100	\$85,000	0	0	1	1	3
QUERI Center	\$135,765	\$280,080	\$237,500	\$350,000	\$300,000	2	3	1	1	1
QUERI Projects	\$0	\$53,400	\$179,000	\$447,300	\$364,641	0	1	1	2	2
Special Projects	\$0	\$40,075	\$0	\$34,600	\$33,400	0	1	0	2	2
Other Center	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$11,104	0	0	1	0	1
USA	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	0	0	1	1	1
Sub Total	\$2,158,128	\$2,497,640	\$2,820,621	\$3,733,371	\$3,315,935	16	25	23	23	30
Other VA										
CSP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$140,990	\$154,558	0	0	0	1	1
MDRC	\$0	\$0	\$34,293	\$0	\$0	0	0	1	0	0
Other	\$429,489	\$99,800	\$93,307	\$79,843	\$55,561	4	1	2	2	3
Core - Facility Contributions	\$467,507	\$581,631	\$480,634	\$712,756	\$860,930	1	1	1	1	1
VISN	\$0	\$300,805	\$593,850	\$525,154	\$574,645	0	3	7	6	9
Sub Total	\$896,996	\$982,236	\$1,202,084	\$1,458,743	\$1,645,694	5	5	11	10	14
Federal Non-VA										
NIH	\$249,522	\$280,489	\$93,483	\$646,719	\$915,369	2	3	3	7	13
AHRQ	\$0	\$0	\$1,667	\$1,267,278	\$1,990,142	0	0	1	3	2
Other	\$0	\$47,968	\$174,497	\$279,778	\$225,584	0	1	4	4	5
Sub Total	\$249,522	\$328,457	\$269,647	\$2,193,775	\$3,131,095	2	4	8	14	20

Non-Federal Foundations	\$13,462	\$203,693	\$176,573	\$252,264	\$164,288	1	6	9	9	6
Commercial	\$19,610	\$90,453	\$46,512	\$230,033	\$338,254	2	4	6	7	10
Other	\$0	\$0	\$26,667	\$108,883	\$90,735	0	0	2	6	6
Core - University	\$0	\$0	\$846,547	\$624,374	\$528,302	0	0	1	2	4
Sub Total	\$33,072	\$294,146	\$1,096,299	\$1,215,554	\$1,121,579	3	10	18	24	26
Training Programs										
OAA	\$91,508	\$93,218	\$77,508	\$93,661	\$95,862	1	1	1	1	1
Sub Total	\$91,508	\$93,218	\$77,508	\$93,661	\$95,862	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	\$3,429,226	\$4,195,697	\$5,466,159	\$8,695,104	\$9,310,165	27	45	61	72	91

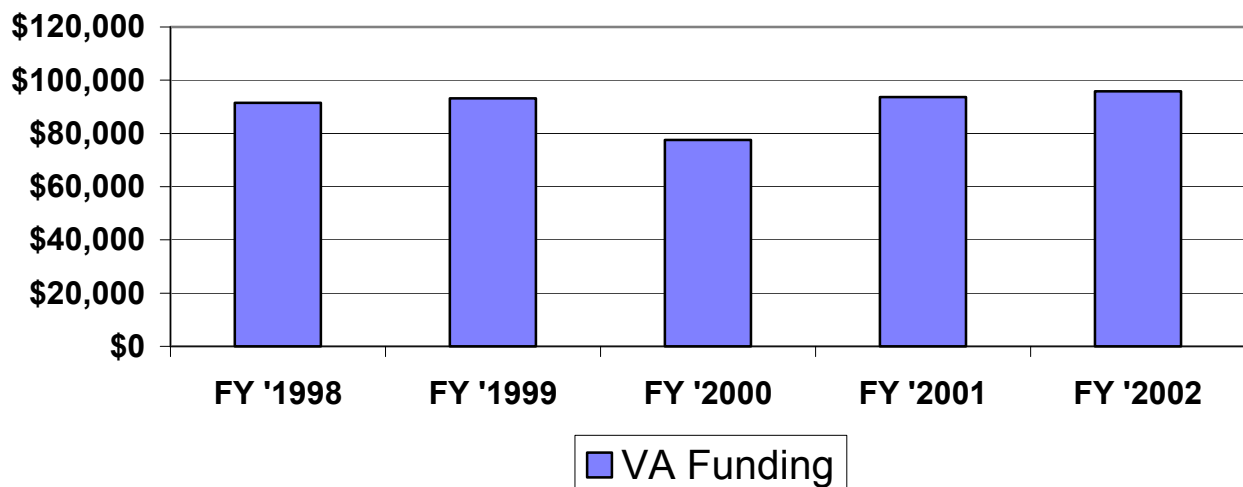
3.2 Funding Charts (Figures 1-4)



Houston Center of Excellence External (Non-VA) Funding



Houston Center of Excellence Training Support History



4 Research Projects

Our research agenda has remained primarily focused on the assessment of quality and the determinants of utilization.

The major objectives of our quality studies are: (1) to determine the degree to which administrative databases can be used to assess quality and outcomes; (2) to develop ways of helping patients choose among alternative treatment plans by improving methods of assessing patient desires, expectations and values; and (3) to develop a comprehensive model of quality of care that integrates patient choices and the provision of technically proficient care.

The major objectives of our utilization studies are: (1) to develop and evaluate measures of utilization and costs that better explain health care use over time; (2) to identify the determinants of health care utilization and costs; (3) to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of alternative types of care; and (4) to develop tools to forecast VA utilization and costs.

In total, the Center was involved in 81 funded research projects and programs during this reporting period. Funding was initiated in FY02 for 27 new projects and programs, funding was completed for 32 but 17 of the projects are still in the analysis or final report preparation stage. Selected projects are described below (project narratives are listed in the same order as Section 4.1).

The Center continues as the Coordinating Center for the Chronic Heart Failure VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (CHF-QUERI). The goal of the CHF-QUERI is to create measurable, rapid, and sustainable improvements in quality of care and health outcomes for veterans with heart failure. Dr. Nelda P. Wray serves as Research Co-Chair of the Committee and Director of the Coordinating Center, and Mark Dunlap, MD, Chief of the Cardiology Section at the Houston VA Medical Center, serves as Clinical Co-Chair. The Coordinating Center implements policy set by the Executive Committee. Dr. Nancy Petersen leads the Database Core, Dr. Anita Deswal leads the New Research Core, and Dr. Michael Johnson leads the Information, Dissemination and Translation Core. The CHF QUERI has been solidifying methodology and findings from the CHF Cohort, a nationwide database of approximately 280,000 heart failure patients in the VA. The Coordinating Center is currently planning the translation projects to disseminate the research findings to improve care.

Dr. Nelda Wray was awarded a two-year grant titled, "Reducing readmission rates in patients with CHF." This CHF QUERI Coordinating Center (CHF QUERI-CC) project, in collaboration with Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 16, has the goal of developing, implementing, and monitoring an intervention at several VISN 16 facilities, designed to improve the coordination of care of patients with CHF, reduce hospital readmission rates and generate substantial savings. The project is in the data analysis stage.

Dr. Laura Petersen is the co-PI for the project titled, "Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?" The purpose of this study is to prospectively assess patient health beliefs and preferences, physician attitudes, and clinical factors as correlates of racial variation in cardiac procedure use for patients with acute coronary syndromes. The data collection phase has been completed and the study is in the final report stage.

Dr. Howard Gordon (PI) and Dr. Debora Paterniti (Co-PI) conducted the project, "Health-Seeking Behaviors and Treatment Selection in Patients with Coronary Disease." This project interviewed patients with coronary disease to elucidate their decisional processes for seeking care and accepting recommendations. The study will provide insight into whether decision-making varies by race and ethnicity.

Dr. Robert Morgan was awarded a three-year IIR project titled, "Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans." This study has two specific aims: Aim 1: To examine individual-level factors affecting enrollment by minority and low-income veterans in HMO plans, as well as use of medical care and satisfaction with care by these VA users compared to White and higher-income veterans, and to veterans who do not use the VA medical system. Aim 2: To examine patterns of enrollment in Medicare HMOs by different race/ethnic and income-based sub-groups of VA users, and to

describe changes in HMO enrollment by VA users following the implementation of the BBA provisions. This project is in the data collection stage. In addition to this award Dr. Morgan also received a Research Experience Award, which will allow Dr. Nora Osemene to gain research experience while working on this project.

Dr. Terri Menke conducted the project, "Improving the HIV/AIDS Immunology Case Registry," in collaboration with the HIV QUERI Coordinating Center at the San Diego VAMC, under the direction of Sam Bozzette, MD, PhD. The project will assist the HIV QUERI to validate and improve the HIV Registry. This project is in the final report preparation stage.

Dr. Nancy Jo Dunn leads a grant supported by the VA HSR&D Service, titled, "Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD." This project is a randomized controlled trial comparing the clinical efficacy and cost-effectiveness of Self-Management Therapy (SMT) versus Psychoeducational Group Therapy (PGT) in veterans who have concurrent PTSD and depression. The grant is unique for its attention to the treatment of PTSD within the context of coexisting conditions. The major objective of the study is to evaluate the impact of SMT and PGT on clinical outcomes and on the use of hospital resources acutely and over an extended follow-up period. During the fiscal year, plans were initiated to expand the study to include female veterans. This study was awarded a one-year extension and is in the data analysis stage.

Dr. Kimberly O'Malley was awarded a three year SDR project titled, "Center for Excellence in Measurement: Development of a Resource Website for Health Services Researchers." The objective of this project is to serve as a resource for improving the overall quality of measurement in the health services research community. This study is in the data collection phase.

Dr. Laura Petersen also received four VA contracts. Included in the contracts are VISN's 5, 6, 12, 9 and 22. The correct methodology for resource allocation within the Department of Veterans Affairs Networks (i.e. from the 22 regional networks to individual facilities) is controversial. This research, contracted by the VA, examines the use of risk adjustment based on illness severity for developing capitation methods and rates in the VA system. All projects are in the data collection and analysis stage.

Dr. Mark Kunik was awarded a four year IIR entitled, "A Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Depression and Anxiety in COPD." This proposal describes a multi-site, randomized control trial designed to examine the efficacy of manual based cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). This study is in the data collection phase.

Dr. Adam Kelly was awarded a Management Consultation Project (MRR) entitled, "Pilot Just-in-Time IRB Review Evaluation." The study team proposes to evaluate the effectiveness of Just-in-Time (JIT) implementation, with the intent of highlighting the cost-effectiveness and accompanying enhancements to merit review quality that JIT engenders, while alerting the HSR&D Management Consultation Program of actual or potential pitfalls that arise as unintended consequences of JIT review. This study is in the data collection phase.

Eight center investigators were awarded supplemental funding to conduct Locally Initiated Projects (LIPs). The investigators will conduct pilot studies that will allow them to submit full grant applications in the future.

Dr. Carol M. Ashton was awarded a five-year program grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality entitled, "Racial and Ethnic Variations in Medical Interactions" toward the end of FY00. This program award, consisting of six projects and three cores, will assess the extent to which remediable problems in doctor-patient communication result in racial and ethnic variations in the use of medical services and in health outcomes. The leaders of the projects are all Center investigators. Five of the projects are in the data collection stage. Dr. Ashton also received a minority supplement grant from AHRQ entitled, "Variation in Office-Based Treatment of Opiate Abuse." Dr. Herminia Palacio is the Co-Principal Investigator for this grant. The proposed 4-year project will focus on evaluating racial and ethnic variations in the impact of recently passed federal legislation enabling physicians to dispense Schedule III, IV, or V drugs for maintenance or detoxification treatment of opiate-addicted patients.

Dr. Rebecca Beyth also received funding from the AHA for the project, "Perioperative Management of Anticoagulant Therapy in Patients with Chronic Atrial Fibrillation." The study will first determine the extent of adverse outcomes in a cohort of patients with chronic atrial fibrillation who undergo major surgery, and secondly examine the clinical strategies used in the perioperative management of anticoagulant therapy in these patients. The study is in the data analysis and final report write-up stage.

Dr. Laura Petersen continues to lead the study funded by the American Heart Association into health-related quality of life in patients with acute coronary syndromes. The project is titled, "Racial Differences in Health-Related Quality of Life Among Potential Candidates for Revascularization." The presence and magnitude of change over time in health-related quality of life among those patients who were candidates for revascularization will be assessed using measures of health related quality of life at 6 and 12 months. The study is in the data analysis stage.

Dr. Tracie Collins is supported by a SmithKline Beecham Junior Faculty Award for Diabetes and is supported by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Award for her project, "Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease." The purpose of the project is to determine the prevalence of PAD in a racially and ethnically diverse population. The study is in the data collection phase.

Dr. Rebecca Beyth conducted the project, "Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients," funded by the NIH. This project seeks to provide information about risk factors that are potentially modifiable through interventions targeted to reduce the risk of warfarin-related bleeding. The study is in the data validation, data analysis and final report write-up stage.

Dr. Maria Suarez-Almazor was awarded a five-year program grant from the National Institutes of Health entitled, "Treatment Adherence in Minorities with Rheumatic Disease." The overall objective of this study is to quantify adherence to medical recommendations in patients with RA and SLE from diverse ethnic backgrounds, and to determine which are its predictors and outcomes, with an emphasis on psychosocial factors and medical interaction issues. The study is in the start-up activity stage.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has awarded a grant of \$300,000 to Dr. Laura A. Petersen. The grant will fund Dr. Petersen's participation in the Foundation's Generalist Physician Faculty Scholars Program. The program awards four-year career development grants to outstanding junior faculty at U.S. medical schools in family practice, general internal medicine, and general pediatrics. Petersen is focusing her research on how to restructure payment systems to reward the health care system for high quality care. The study is in the start-up activity phase.

The Center has many career development awardees from various funding agencies. The following people receive career development award funding from VA HSR&D: Lynn Snow, PhD, Paul Haidet, MD, MPH and Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH (Research Career Development Award); Laura Petersen, MD, MPH, Mark Kunik, MD, MPH and Howard Gordon, MD (Advanced Research Career Development Award); and Terri Menke, PhD (Research Career Scientist Award). Anita Deswal, MD receives research career development award funding from the VA Cooperative Studies program. The following people receive research career development award funding from the National Institutes of Health: Rebecca Beyth, MD, MS (K08 Career Development Award); and Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH (K24 Career Development Award).

4.1 Research Projects and Programs (Table 3)

Funded Research Projects and Programs Houston Center of Excellence

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
HSR&D								
AIA 00-001	Associate Investigator Program Award - to Lynn Snow, PhD	A. Snow PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$49,000	\$112,360	7/2000	6/2002	Career Award
CHF 98-001	QUERI on Chronic Heart Failure	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV A. Deswal MD - Co-INV M. L. Johnson PhD - M. J. York PhD MA BS - Co-INV M. Dunlap MD - Clinical Coordinator N. J. Petersen PhD - Biostatistician	HSR&D	\$300,000	\$1,366,07	6/1998	7/2003	QUERI Center
CHT 01-036	Reducing Readmission Rates in Patients	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV A. Deswal MD - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Biostatistician	QUERI	\$299,541	\$500,000	4/2001	3/2003	Analysis
ECN 99-017	Health Economics Resource Center	T. J. Menke PhD - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$0	\$30,000	10/1999	9/2002	Completed
ECV 98-100	Health Seeking and Treatment Selection in Patients with Coronary Disease	H. S. Gordon MD SB - PI D. A. Paterniti PhD - Co-PI N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$59,100	\$402,900	8/1999	1/2002	Completed
HBU 01-113	Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans	R. O. Morgan PhD - PI	Research Experience Award Program	\$33,400	\$68,000	4/2001	2/2003	Other
HFP 02-186	Changes in Mortality, Utilization and Quality of	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI		\$5,147	\$5,147	6/2002	5/2003	Analysis
HFP 02-205	Houston Locally Initiated Projects	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Director		\$75,000	\$75,000	10/2001	9/2003	Supplemental Funding
HFP 98-001	HSR&D Center for Chronic Diseases Outcomes	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Director		\$1,182	\$1,182	4/1998	5/2003	Start Up Activities
HII 99-049	Determinants of Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy and Impact on Outcomes	T. J. Menke PhD - PI C. B. Anderson PhD - Co-INV D. A. Paterniti PhD - Co-INV L. Rabeneck MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$65,100	\$370,400	10/1999	9/2002	Final Report

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
HSR&D								
HIS 99-039	Improving the HIV/AIDS Immunology Case Registry	T. J. Menke PhD - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$0	\$57,300	10/1999	9/2002	Final Report
IIR 00-097	A Cognitive-Behavioral Intervention for Depression and Anxiety in COPD	M. E. Kunik MD MPH - PI J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV A. Snow PhD - Consultant	HSR&D	\$196,500	\$896,900	1/2002	12/200	Data Collection
IIR 20-052	Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans	R. O. Morgan PhD - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$223,700	\$705,100	10/2000	9/2003	Data Collection
IIR 95-074	Treatment of Depression in Patients with	N. Dunn PhD - PI T. J. Menke PhD - Co-INV L. P. Rehm PhD - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$147,800	\$912,098	10/1997	9/2002	Final Report
MNT 01-027	Translating Best Practices for Depression into VA Care Solutions	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI	HSR&D	\$1,200	\$1,200	1/2001	6/2002	Analysis
MRC 02-213	Does the VA Health Care System Attenuate Racial Disparities in Quality of Care for Acute Myocardial	L. A. Petersen MD MPH -	HSR&D	\$10,000	\$10,000	7/2002	6/2003	Data Collection
MRR 02-114	Pilot Just-In-Time IRB Review Evaluation	P. A. Kelly PhD MBA BS -	HSR&D	\$50,000	\$100,000	4/2002	3/2003	Data Collection
RCD 00-013	Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$180,000	\$537,513	1/2001	12/200	Career Award
RCD 00-030	Understanding Ethnic Variations in Physician-Patient	P. Haidet MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$168,000	\$360,000	7/2001	7/2004	Career Award
RCD 01-008	Improvement in Quality of Care of Demented Nursing Home Residents: Pain Management	A. Snow PhD - Awardee	HSR&D	\$25,000	\$215,571	7/2002	6/2005	Career Award
RCD 97-319	Understanding and Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Variations in Health Care-Advanced Career	H. S. Gordon MD SB - Awardee	HSR&D	\$152,000	\$432,024	7/2001	6/2004	Career Award

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Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
HSR&D								
RCD 98-351	Health Service Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity	M. E. Kunik MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$130,593	\$618,968	7/1999	6/2002	Career Award
RCD 99-012	Advanced Research Career Development	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$114,591	\$504,000	7/1999	6/2002	Career Award
SDR 01-044	The eXpedient Psychometric Education Research Team in Houston	K. J. O'Malley PhD MS BS - PI N. P. Wray MD MPH - C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV K. F. Cook PhD MA - Co-INV M. E. Ford PhD MS MSW - Co-INV R. O. Morgan PhD - A. Snow PhD - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$246,975	\$623,300	7/2001	6/2004	Data Collection
SDR 01-175	Creating A VA Health Care Atlas	M. K. Kuebler MS BS - PI	HSR&D	\$7,645	\$7,645	9/2001	2/2003	Analysis
USA 20-001	Undersecretary's Award - Nelda Wray, Award Period 4/01/2000 thru 3/31/2003 for a period of 3 years	N. P. Wray MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$50,000	\$150,000	4/2000	3/2003	Career Award
XVA 33-024	PAS/Medicare	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI	HSR&D	\$11,104	\$11,104	12/2001	4/2002	Analysis
Other VA								
99-000	Healthcare Utilization and Mortality in Parkinson's Disease Patients	N. J. Petersen PhD - PI	PADDREC	\$35,512	\$35,512	4/2002	3/2003	Start Up Activities
CRCD 712B	Understanding Racial Variations in Response to Drug Therapy for Heart Failure	A. Deswal MD - Awardee	VA Cooperative Studies	\$154,558	\$405,000	1/2001	12/200	Career Award
IL 12-96-007	Myocardial Infarction and CABG Long Term Follow-up Study (EPC 97-069)	L. A. Petersen MD MPH -	ERIC	\$11,049	\$191,436	10/1997	9/2002	Analysis
XVA 33-020	Risk-Adjusted National VERA DBAF Phase III	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV K. C. Pietz PhD - Co-INV	VISN 20	\$17,176	\$209,833	11/2000	10/200	Completed
XVA 33-021	Implementation of a Facility-Level Health-Based Capitation Method for VISNs 6 & 12	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV	VISNs 6 & 12	\$0	\$102,467	2/2001	1/2002	Completed

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Other VA								
XVA 33-023	Facility-Level Health-Based Capitation Method for VISN 5	L. A. Petersen MD MPH -	VISN 5	\$0	\$58,000	11/2001	1/2002	Completed
XVA 33-025	Using DCGs to Profile and Forecast Facility Budgets in VISNs 5, 6, 12	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV K. C. Pietz PhD - Co-INV	VISN 5,6,12	\$185,050	\$185,050	2/2002	1/2003	Data Collection
XVA 33-026	VISN 20 Northwest Network Provider Profiling Project	K. C. Pietz PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	VISN 20	\$143,650	\$143,650	10/2001	9/2002	Analysis
XVA 33-027	National VERA DBAF Phase IV	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV K. C. Pietz PhD - Co-INV	VA Headquarters	\$148,146	\$148,146	2/2002	9/2002	Completed
XVA 33-028	Using DCGs to Profile and Forecast Facility Budgets in VISN	L. A. Petersen MD MPH -	VISN 22	\$36,912	\$36,912	6/2002	1/2003	Data Collection
XVA 33-043	Using DCGs to Profile and Forecast Facility Budgets in VISN 9	L. A. Petersen MD MPH -	VISN 9	\$43,711	\$43,711	6/2002	1/2003	Data Collection
XVA 33-045	Supplement for NIH R03 study, "Severely Demented Individuals: Assessing Their Pain	A. Snow PhD - PI	MIRREC	\$9,000	\$9,000	9/2002	11/200	Data Collection
XVA 33-047	MIRECC grant money	A. Snow PhD - PI	VISN 16 MIRECC	\$0	\$9,200	7/2001	6/2002	Completed
Federal Non-VA								
1 P30 DK56338	Center for Gastrointestinal Development, Infection, and	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV	National Institutes of Health	\$66,320	\$145,979	12/2000	3/2002	Completed
1-9005	Understanding Factors Related to Prostate, Lung, and Colorectal Cancer Screening among African American Men	M. E. Ford PhD MS MSW - PI	Department of Defense	\$124,273	\$124,273	2/2002	12/200	Start Up Activities

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Federal Non-VA								
25-512-1	The AAMEN Project II: Retaining African American Men in the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian (PLCO) Cancer Screening Trial	M. E. Ford PhD MS MSW - PI	NIH	\$36,103	\$36,103	2/2002	9/2003	Data Collection
25-512-2	Examining the Effects of a False Positive Result on Subsequent Cancer Screening	M. E. Ford PhD MS MSW - PI	NIH	\$14,946	\$14,946	2/2002	7/2003	Data Collection
CDC 01-013	Stress Self-Management for Women with Disabilities	N. J. Petersen PhD - Biostatistician	NIH	\$5,367	\$12,025	9/2001	9/2003	Data Collection
DOD 1-0531	Understanding Racial Disparities in Mammography Use Among Breast Cancer	M. E. Ford PhD MS MSW - PI	Department of Defense	\$2,757	\$2,757	2/2002	6/2002	Start Up Activities
DOE 00-884	Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)	P. Haidet MD MPH - P. A. Kelly PhD MBA BS - Co-INV	Department of Education	\$18,960	\$57,229	10/2000	9/2003	Data Collection
K08 AG00712	Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients	R. J. Beyth MD MS - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV	National Institute on Aging	\$162,635	\$315,570	7/1997	8/2002	Career Award
K24 DK59318	Measurement and Therapy of Uninvestigated Dyspepsia	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - Awardee	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney	\$119,302	\$119,302	9/2001	7/2002	Career Award
NAG 9-1153	Protecting Scientific Integrity Through Disclosure of	B. A. Brody PhD - PI C. B. Anderson PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	NASA	\$32,100	\$280,680	7/1999	6/2002	Analysis
P01 HS10876-0	Racial & Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI T. C. Collins MD MPH - Co-INV H. S. Gordon MD SB - Co-INV P. Haidet MD MPH - F. Martin MS BA - Co-INV K. J. O'Malley PhD MS BS - Co-INV D. A. Paterniti PhD - J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV M. E. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	AHRQ	\$1,677,20	\$5,281,16	9/2000	8/2005	Data Collection

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
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Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Federal Non-VA								
P01 HS10876-0 2S1	Variation in Office-Based Treatment of Opiate Abuse - Supplement to	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI H. Palacio MD MPH - P. Haidet MD MPH - R. O. Morgan PhD - J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV M. E. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD - Co-INV	AHRQ	\$312,942	\$884,045	9/2001	8/2005	Data Collection
R01 07-744	Culture Bias in Testing Expressive Ability	R. O. Morgan PhD -	NIH	\$22,633	\$67,899	7/2001	6/2004	Data Collection
R01 47-858	Treatment Adherence in Minorities with Rheumatic	M. E. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV K. J. O'Malley PhD MS BS - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV	NIH	\$398,639	\$2,239,57	4/2002	3/2007	Start Up Activities
R01 63-229	Genetic Basis of Platelet Hyperfunction (Bray)	J. Soucek PhD - Biostatistician	NIH	\$11,700	\$58,500	8/2000	7/2005	Data Collection
R01 88-069	Improving Informed Consent in Diverse	M. E. Ford PhD MS MSW - PI N. J. Petersen PhD - Biostatistician	NIH	\$49,241	\$500,000	7/2002	7/2005	Start Up Activities
R01 DMID-02	Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU-Keitel-Part A)	N. J. Petersen PhD -	NIH	\$18,673	\$100,153	6/2002	5/2007	Start Up Activities
R03 MH64033	Severely Demented Individuals: Assessing Their	A. Snow PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV M. E. Kunik MD MPH - Co-INV K. J. O'Malley PhD MS BS - Co-INV	National Institute of Mental Health	\$0	\$50,000	9/2001	9/2003	Data Collection
R04 CCR 61880	Cost Analysis of Secondary Conditions in Disabled Women	M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV R. O. Morgan PhD - M. E. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Biostatistician	Center for Disease	\$47,494	\$747,538	9/2000	9/2003	Data Collection
Non-Federal								
0060054	Perioperative Management of Anticoagulant Therapy in Patients with Chronic Atrial	R. J. Beyth MD MS - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Biostatistician	AHA	\$72,980	\$106,779	7/2000	6/2002	Final Report

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
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Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Non-Federal								
9970113N	Racial Differences in Health-Related Quality of Life Among Potential Candidates for Revascularization.	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Co-PI	American Heart Association	\$0	\$411,209	1/1999	12/200	Analysis
9970201N	Resource Utilization and Outcomes in Patients with Chronic Heart Failure	N. J. Petersen PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV J. M. Geraci MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - Co-INV	American Heart Association	\$0	\$201,279	1/1999	12/200	Completed
D16-HP-00036	Clinicians Perceptions of the Dimensions of Patients'	H. S. Gordon MD SB - Consultant	HRSA	\$3,000	\$9,000	5/2001	4/2004	Data Collection
PG 00-501	Veterans Affairs Databases to Describe VA users	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI K. J. O'Malley PhD MS BS - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD -	Pfizer	\$0	\$100,000	6/2001	5/2002	Analysis
RWJ 45-444	Structuring Payment Systems to Promote Healthcare Quality	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	Robert Wood Johnson	\$75,000	\$300,000	7/2002	6/2006	Start Up Activities
XNV 33-020	Self-Perceptions as Determinants of Physical Activity in Early	C. B. Anderson PhD - PI	American Cancer Society/Baylor College of Medicine	\$0	\$25,000	6/2000	10/200	Completed
XNV 33-024	Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease	T. C. Collins MD MPH - PI	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$91,308	\$335,860	1/2000	12/200	Data Collection
XNV 33-025	Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - PI	Astrazeneca	\$0	\$81,400	1/1998	12/200	Completed
XNV 33-026	Support CHF Comprehensive Care Program	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI	Pfizer	\$0	\$5,000	8/2001	7/2002	Supplemental Funding
XNV 33-028	The Prevalence and Determinants of GERD: A Population-Based Endoscopic Study	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	ASGE	\$0	\$50,000	1/2001	6/2002	Analysis
XNV 33-031	SODA Scales Contract with	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - PI	Pfizer	\$25,000	\$25,000	12/2000	11/200	Analysis
XNV 33-033	Childhood GERD as a Risk Factor for GERD in Adults	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	Astrazeneca	\$0	\$30,000	5/2001	4/2002	Analysis
XNV 33-034	Clinical Course of GERD in Children Extra-esophageal Manifestations	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	Janssen Pharmaceutical	\$23,925	\$23,925	7/2001	6/2002	Analysis

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Non-Federal								
XNV 33-037	Hypertension, Hyperlipidemia & Diabetes Treatment and Outcomes: A Study of Patients in the	M. L. Johnson PhD - PI R. J. Beyth MD MS - K. C. Pietz PhD - Co-INV	Pfizer	\$107,669	\$217,721	6/2002	5/2003	Data Collection
XNV 33-038	The Effect of HCV Co-Infection on the Clinical Course of HIV-Infected Patients	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	Schering	\$25,924	\$66,130	5/2002	5/2003	Data Collection
XNV 33-039	Contract with Society for General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Anticoagulation Thromboembolism Research Consortium	M. D. Price MS BS - Awardee	SGIM	\$8,000	\$8,000	2/2002	1/2003	Supplemental Funding
XNV 33-040	SGIM Governance Structure for the ATRC Steering Committee	R. J. Beyth MD MS - PI	SGIM	\$4,735	\$6,000	1/2001	12/200	Manuscript
XNV 33-041	Research and Educational Activities Related to GI Reflux Disease Program	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	Janssen Pharmaceutical	\$20,000	\$20,000	1/2002	6/2002	Analysis
XNV 33-042	Investigating Childhood GERD as a Risk Factor for Complicated GERD in Adults	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	American College of Gastroenterology	\$0	\$25,000	7/2001	6/2002	Analysis
XNV 33-043	Outcomes of Surgical Fundoplication in Children with	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH -	Janssen Pharmaceutical	\$22,236	\$22,236	4/2002	4/2003	Data Collection
XNV 33-046	Prevalence and Determinants of Gastrostomy Tube Placement in Demented	U. K. Braun MD - PI	American Geriatric Society/Pfizer	\$113,500	\$113,500	1/2002	6/2003	Analysis
Training Programs								
TPP 97-004	Training Program for Fellows (post Ph.D.) at Center of Excellence - Houston	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI	OAA	\$95,862	\$1,038,56	10/1993	9/2002	Training Program

5 Research Products and Dissemination

Fiscal year 2002 has been very productive for the communications department. This department, under the leadership of Matt D. Price, MS, chief communications officer, has achieved some significant milestones this year. Mentored by W. Keith Neeley, chief operating officer, he has rebuilt the foundation of the department and created an improved architecture on which to nurture the dissemination of all internal and external communication. The department's improved philosophy is evidenced in the newly created mission statement.

"The department is responsible for creating timely and accurate communications among our internal customers and communities and for communicating our outstanding research and scientific excellence to our external customers and communities."

External Communications

For the VA, communicating science news is important because most all research or staff support is publicly funded. Research from the Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies is disseminated in top medical and research journals, and at national and international conferences. For the FY 02 reporting period, the Center staff produced 68 publications in peer-reviewed journals and 25 articles are in press. Publications include research published in *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, *Gastroenterology*, and *Medical Care*.

Our Center investigators are recognized for their insightful and challenging talks at regional, national, and international conferences. In FY 2002, there were 70 presentations given by HCQCUS investigators. Several HCQCUS investigators made presentations at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. SGIM is one of the world's preeminent organizations devoted to research, education, and practice in general internal medicine. Competition for presentations at the national SGIM meeting is typically intense, reflecting the high levels of scholarship achieved by presenters. This year, HCQCUS investigators made presentations in every venue available at SGIM; these venues included oral research abstracts, research posters, pre-course and workshop presentations, interest groups, clinical vignettes, and innovations in medical education exhibits. In addition, five HCQCUS investigators presented in more than one venue, reaching a level of achievement that is unparalleled among health services research sections. In addition to Dr. Ashton's presentation in the United Kingdom, described below, other international presentations include: Dr. Ursula Braun's presentation, "Decision-making for PEG tube placement in dementia patients" in Stockholm, Sweden; Dr. Thomas Giordano's presentations at the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain; and Dr. Maria Suarez-Almazor's presentation, "Quality of life and functional status in systemic sclerosis" in Gold Coast, Australia.

In September, Dr. Carol Ashton, EXCEED program principal investigator, presented, "Racial Disparities in U.S. Health Outcomes" at the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Charlecotte, county of Warwickshire, U.K. This is the first international conference organized by EACH, the newly formed European Association for Communication in Healthcare. The conference is organized in partnership with The Program in Communication and Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, NIVEL, the Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research, The Forum on Communication in Healthcare of the Royal Society of Medicine, and ETHOX, the Oxford Institute for Ethics and Communication in Health Care Practice. Other highlights of the EXCEED program's information dissemination IDEAL core include the implementation of community education forums, "How to Talk to Your Doctor," discussion of opportunities and enrichment programs for high school students and science teachers, and the creation of a health services research academy designed to offer graduate students and junior faculty academic enrichment and training information seminars in health services research.

An important HCQCUS core value is that our research should impact the practice of health care. One of the Center's junior scientists, Dr. Tracie Collins, exemplified this core value when she agreed to share her research on peripheral arterial disease with Reader's Digest magazine in FY 2002. Dr. Collins feels that her research on PAD must reach beyond the scientific community. "To impact the practice of health care, it should reach consumers of health care... the patients."

The Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center co-sponsors and edits the publication, *VA Pride*. This publication serves as an information guide for veterans in southeast Texas and also makes the leap from research to practice and specifically focuses on patients and the public. In FY 2002, the Center's EXCEED program was featured in the article, "VA Looks at Patient-Doctor Communication and How it Affects Your Health." At the end of FY 2002, another article is in press that will focus on the accomplishments of the Center's CHF QUERI Program. The program is working with the Houston VAMC to translate evidence-based research findings into better care of CHF patients.

Nearly 125 media outlets featured articles or stories on the Center's groundbreaking research, "A Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Trial of Arthroscopic Surgery for Osteoarthritis of the Knee" featured in the New England Journal of Medicine on July 11. The brainchild of lead investigator Nelda Wray, this pivotal research garnered national and international attention and was introduced to the national media in a press conference hosted by Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi in Washington, D.C. A total of 44 media outlets printed articles on the knee study. These included the Washington Post, Associated Press, Science Reuters, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Newsday, Los Angeles Times, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Boston Globe, Detroit Free Press, The Seattle Times, The Canadian Press, Houston Chronicle and most all major city's newspapers in the U.S. and Canada, as well as Time Magazine and Newsweek. The knee study was featured on NPR radio's All Things Considered, Canada AM, Health Talk, and nearly 80 national, international, and local broadcast media aired stories. These included CBS, NBC, and ABC Networks, MSNBC Cable, as well as most local and regional affiliates. As mentioned previously, the push to translate research into practice is a fundamental core value. As a result of the work of Dr. Wray and others, this research lead to the Department of Veterans Affairs advisory to its doctors recommending that they not perform arthroscopic surgery to relieve pain of osteoarthritis of the knee until the common knee operation is reviewed by a panel of experts.

The new HCQCUS web site was unveiled on May 8: <http://www.hsrd.houston.med.va.gov>. Its improved design and functionality will help to highlight the Center's history, current achievements, and future goals and will greatly improve the ability to communicate the Center's mission to its external customers and communities. The website was designed and created by the chief communications officer with insightful assistance from Kimberlee Benn, a post-master's degree fellow in health care administration. In addition, HCQCUS sponsors ancillary web sites for the Measurement Excellence Initiative, CHF QUERI, and the EXCEED Program.

This year, the Research Monitor, the Center's quarterly newsletter was redesigned to better reflect the purpose of the newsletter. The target audience was refined to target health services researchers across the country, and the content was updated to include both cover and feature articles that focus on the Center's innovative initiatives and developments, publications, funding updates, and professional staff news.

Internal Communications

In fiscal year 2002, two of the HCQCUS Research Excellence Initiative teams developed new approaches to disseminating information to the Center through initiatives designed to improve the research at the Center. The Research-in-Progress team was charged with facilitating research presentations so that Center scientists can receive feedback about their work in progress prior to formal presentations. This was accomplished through the refinement of a bi-weekly QOWW series. The Seminar Series team was charged with discovering areas in which Center scientists need training, e.g., writing, media training, etc. This was accomplished through the creation of a bi-weekly Professional Development Seminar series. Both of these vehicles not only accomplished their immediate goal of improving research at the Center, but they allowed for the dissemination of important research information to internal and external customers.

An exciting project that is in the final stages of development and nearing implementation is the launching of the Center's first Intranet web site. This site, unlike the Internet web site, will focus on internal information dissemination and will feature the ability for all staff to post important, time-sensitive information directly to the Intranet. Further, the site will be organized by functional section, and each

section will contain information on policies and procedures, forms and documents, current news and information, and staff biographies. The Intranet web site will be accessible only to HCQCUS staff.

Additional internal and external communications initiatives have been developed and implemented or are nearing implementation. These include: an information packet, that is distributed to guests and prospective customers, that describes and details the Center, its staff and their many accomplishments; walls within the Center that highlight current publications, presentations, grants and awards, career development and employee awards and other achievements; a photographic layout of the Center's mentoring program; and other unique signage and photographs that impart a sense of family and community within the organization.

At the heart of the communications department is the desire to create communications that accurately and eloquently tell our story, and as such, the chief communications officer holds fast to his personal mission to be "responsible for anticipating the communications needs of our internal and external customers and communities and for ensuring that all communications needs are met and exceeded."

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COE: Houston
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61. Strain L, Grabusic C, Searle M, Dunn N. Continuing and ceasing leisure activities in later life: a longitudinal study. *Gerontologist* 2002; 42: 217-223.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Aging
PI: L. A. Strain
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
62. Suarez-Almazor M. In quest of the holy grail: efficacy versus effectiveness in rheumatoid arthritis. *J Rheumatol* 2002; 29: 209-211.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
63. Suarez-Almazor M. Unraveling gender and ethnic variation in the utilization of elective procedures: the case of total joint replacement. *Medical Care* 2002; 40: 447-450.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
64. Suarez-Almazor M, Newman C, Hanson J, Bruera E. Attitudes of terminally ill cancer patients about euthanasia and assisted suicide: predominance of psychosocial determinants and beliefs over symptom distress and subsequent survival. *J Clin Oncol*
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
65. Suarez-Almazor M, Newman C, Hanson J, Bruera E. Preferences of terminally ill cancer patients about euthanasia and assisted suicide. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 2002; 20:
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
66. Woodard L, Hernandez T, Petersen L. Racial Differences in attitudes regarding cardiovascular disease prevention and treatment: A qualitative study. *J Gen Intern Med*
Project Number: ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306

67. Woodard L, Kressin N, Petersen L. Racial disparities in cholesterol monitoring and treatment for secondary prevention. J Gen Intern Med 2002; .
- Project Number:** RCD 95-306
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
68. Yamaoka Y, Soucek J, Odenbreit S, Haas R, Arnqvist A, Boren T, Kodama T, Osato M, Gutierrez O, Kim J, Graham D. Discrimination between cases of duodenal ulcer and gastritis on the basis of putative virulence factors of *Helicobacter pylori*. J Clin Microbiol 2002; 40: 2244-2246.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Helicobacter Pylori
PI: Y. Yamaoka
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

In Press

1. Ashton C, Septimus J, Petersen N, Soucek J, Menke T, Collins T, Wray N. Health care use of veterans treated for diabetes in the Veterans Affairs medical care system. American Journal of Managed Care. 2002; In press.
Project Number: XVA 33-024
Project Title: PAS/Medicare
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee:
2. Brody B, Anderson C, McCrary S, McCullough L, Morgan R. Expanding the Scope of Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest: The Views of the Stakeholders. IRB. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Conflict of Interest
PI: Baruch Brody, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
3. Coverdale J, Haidet P, Hunt D. Learning by doing: teaching critical appraisals of randomized trials by performing an in-class randomized trial. Acad Med. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Teaching Critical Appraisals of Randomized Trials
PI: J. Coverdale
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
4. DeVito C, Morgan R, Duque M, Moty E, Virnig B. Physical Performance Effects of Low Intensity Exercise Among Clinically-Defined High-Risk Elders. Gerontology. 2002; In
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: High Risk Elders
PI: C. DeVito
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
5. El-Serag H. Hepatitis C and hepatocellular carcinoma. Hepatology. 2002; In press.
Project Number: RCD 00-013
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal
PI: Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013
6. El-Serag H, Anand B, Richardson P, Rabeneck L. Infectious disorders in HVC-infected veterans: a call for targeted screening. American Journal of Gastroenterology. 2002; In
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hep C Virus Infection Among US Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013

7. El-Serag H, Graham D. Prevention of gastric cancer. IARC. 2002; In press.
Project Number: RCD 00-013
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal
PI: Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013

8. El-Serag H, Graham D, Inadomi J. Prevention of clinical upper gastrointestinal events in NSAID users: The use of nomogram in cost-effectiveness analysis. Arch Intern Med.
Project Number: RCD 00-013
Project Title: Career Award
PI: Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013

9. El-Serag H, Hample H, Yeh C, Rabeneck L. Extrahepatic manifestation of HCV: a case-control study among US veterans. Hepatology. 2002; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hep C Virus Infection Among US Veterans: Clinical and Economical Impact

PI: Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013

10. El-Serag H, Johanson J. Erosive esophagitis in H pylori negative patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease. Scandinavian Journal of Gastroenterology. 2002; In
Project Number: XNV 33-028
Project Title: The Prevalence and Determinants of GERD: A Population Based Endoscopic Study

PI: Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013

11. Kahn J, Zhang X, Cross L, Palacio H, Birkhead G, Morin S. Access to and use of antiretroviral therapy: variation by race/ethnicity in two public insurance programs in the US. Public Health Reports. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Antiretroviral Therapy
PI: J. Kahn
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

12. Kunik M, Lees E, Snow A, Cody M, Rapp C, Molinari V, Beck C. Disruptive behavior in dementia: a qualitative study to promote understanding and improve treatment. *Alzheimer's Care Quarterly*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
13. Kunik M, Snow A, Molinari V, Menke T, Soucek J, Sullivan G. Health care utilization in dementia patients with psychiatric comorbidity. *The Gerontologist*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
14. Malave H, Taylor A, Nattama J, Deswal A, Mann D. Circulating Levels Of Tumor Necrosis Factor Correlate With Indices Of Depressed Heart Rate Variability: A Study In Patients With Mild To Moderate Heart Failure. *Chest*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Heart Failure
PI: Hector Malave, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD712B
15. Morin S, Sengupta S, Cozen M, Richards A, Shriver M, Palacio H, Kahn J. Responding to racial and ethnic disparities in use of HIV drugs: analysis of state policies. *Public Health Reports*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Disparities
PI: Herminia Palacio, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
16. O'Malley K, Moran B, Haidet P, Seidel C, Schneider V, Morgan R, Richards B. Validation of an Observational Instrument for Measuring Student Engagement in Health Professions Settings. *Evaluation and the Health Professions*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

17. O'Malley K, Orengo C, Kunik M, Snow A, Molinari V. Measuring aggression in older adults: latent variable modeling approach. *Journal of Aging and Mental Health Psychiatry and Aging Research*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Measurement of Aggression
PI: Kimberly O'Malley, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
18. O'Malley K, Suarez-Almazor M, Aniol J, Richardson P, Kuykendall D, Wray N. Joint specific multidimensional assessment of pain (J-MAP): Factor structure, reliability, validity, and responsiveness in patients with knee osteoarthritis. *J Rheumatol*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
19. Palacio H, Kahn J, Richards A, Morin S. Effect of race and/or ethnicity on use of antiretrovirals and prophylaxis for opportunistic infection: a review of the literature. *Public Health Reports*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Antiretroviral Therapy
PI: Herminia Palacio, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
20. Petersen L, Normand S, Druss B, Rosenbeck R. Process of care and outcome after acute myocardial infarction for patients with mental illness in the VA healthcare system: Are there disparities. *Health Serv Res*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: IL12-96-007
Project Title: Myocardial Infarction and CABG Long-Term Follow-Up Study
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
21. Pietz K, O'Malley K, Byrne M, Soucek J, Petersen N, Ashton C. Physician-level variation in practice patterns in the VA healthcare system. *Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: XVA 33-026
Project Title: VISN 20 Northwest Provider Profiling Project
PI: Kenneth Pietz, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee:

22. Rabeneck L, El-Serag H, Sandler R. Outcomes of colorectal cancer in the US: no change in survival (1986-1997). *Am J Gastroenterol*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: K24DK59318
Project Title: Measurement and Therapy of Uninvestigated Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: K24DK59318
23. Signorile J, Carmel M, Czaja S, Asfour S, Morgan R, Khalil T, Ma F, Roos B. Differential increases in average isokinetic power by specific muscle groups of older women due to variations in training and testing. *Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences*. 2002; In
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Isokinetic Power
PI: J. F. Signorile
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
24. Tierney W, Weinberger M, Ashton C. A remarkable legacy of science: a review of AHRQ-funded articles published in *Medical Care* during John Eisenberg's directorship of AHRQ. *Medical Care*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: A Review of AHRQ-Funded Articles
PI: W. M. Tierney
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
25. Virnig B, Morgan R. Assessing Competency for Clinical Decisions and Research for Persons with Low English Proficiency: Ethical and Practical Challenges. *Healthcare Ethics and Committee Forum (Special Supplement)*. 2002; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Ethical Challenges
PI: Beth Virnig, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

Conference Presentations / Abstracts

1. Ashton C. Analyses of the VA Health Care System. One VA Texas Meeting. Houston, TX
Project Number: XVA 33-024
Project Title: PAS/Medicare
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee:
2. Branch W, Haidet P, Inui T, Weissman P, Kern D, Mitchell G, Gracey K. Teaching the Human Dimensions of Care in the Office or Outpatient Setting. Annual Session of the American College of Physicians/American Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta,
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Teaching of Healthcare
PI: W. T. Branch
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
3. Braun U, Luchi R, Beyth R. Decision-making for PEG tube placement in dementia patients. VIIIth International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. Stockholm, Sweden 2002.
Project Number: XNV 00-000
Project Title: Prevelence and Determinants of Gastrostomy Tube Placement in Dementia Patients
PI: Ursula Braun, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
4. Collins T, Petersen N, Suarez-Almazor M. The prevelance of intermittent claudication in an ethnically diverse population. Department of Veterans Affairs Twenty Annual Health Services Research and Development Meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: 33-024XNV
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: XNV 33-024
5. Collins T, Petersen N, Suarez-Almazor M, Ashton C. Risk Factors for Peripheral Arterial Disease in an Ethnically Diverse Population. Society of General Internal Medicine, 25th Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: XNV 33-024
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: XNV 33-024

6. Collins T, Soucek J, Beyth R. Meta-analysis of the benefits of anti-thrombotic therapy in the patency of vascular grafts after lower extremity bypass surgery. Society of General Internal Medicine, 25th Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: XVA 00-009
Project Title: Meta-Analysis of Peripheral Arterial Disease Studies
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: XNV 33-024
7. Cree M, Carriere K, Soskolne CL, Suarez-Almazor M. Function following hip fracture. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheum. Philadelphia, PA 2001; 43: S286.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: M. Cree
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
8. Dains J, Haidet P, Paterniti D, Chang T, Tseng E, Rogers J. Medical Students' Interview Style, Attitudes Toward Patient-Centered Care, and Standardized Patients Perceptions of Humanism.. Society of Teachers in Family Medicine 28th Annual Predoctoral Education Conference. Tampa, FL 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Students Assessments
PI: J.E. Dains
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
9. Dunn N, Schillaci J, Yanasak E, Rehm L. Treatment of Depression in Veterans with PTSD and Depression. International Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research. Santa Barbara, CA 2002.
Project Number: 11R 95-074
Project Title: Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD
PI: Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
10. Giordano T, Greenberg L, White A, Visnegarwala F. The impact of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) on hospitalizations of patients in an urban HIV clinic. XIV International AIDS Conference. Barcelona, Spain 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Antiretroviral Therapy
PI: Thomas Giordano, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

11. Giordano T, Hasan Q, Sadeque A, White A, Visnegarwala F. Association of gender and race with baseline HIV viral load and CD4 count. XIV International AIDS Conference. Barcelona, Spain 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: HIV
PI: Thomas Giordano, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
12. Giordano T, Visnegarwala F, Wright J, Adu-Oppong A, Graviss E. Gender but not ethnicity predicts CD4 cell increase in response to sustained virologic suppression (SVS) from highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART). XIV International AIDS Conference. Barcelona, Spain 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Antiretroviral Therapy
PI: Thomas Giordano, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
13. Goetzl L, Chuderwicz C, House M, Craigo S. Fern and Nitrazine Tests in the Diagnosis of Mid-Trimester Rupture of Membranes. Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine. Miami, FL
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Maternal Fetal Medicine
PI: Laura Goetzl, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
14. Gordon H. The Effect of Patient Refusal on Racial Variation in the Use of Invasive Cardiac Procedures. Grand Rounds, Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Houston,
Project Number: RCD 97-319
Project Title: Understanding and Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Variations in Health Care
PI: Howard Gordon, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-319
15. Gordon H, Street R, Kelly P, Wray N. Racial variation in doctor-patient communication after cardiac catheterization. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2002; 17: 159.
Project Number: ECV 98-100
Project Title: Health Seeking Behaviors and Treatment Selection in Patients with Coronary Disease
PI: Howard Gordon, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-319

16. Gracey C, Haidet P, Branch W, Weissman P, Kern D, Mitchell G. Teaching Humanism in Office Based Settings. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Teaching Humanism
PI: Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
17. Haidet P. Invited Moderator: Qualitative Research Abstract Presentation Session. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: RCD 00-030
Project Title: Understanding Ethnic Variations in Physician-Patient Communication
PI: Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
18. Haidet P. Communicating With Your Doctor. Oral Presentation the Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church CANCER Ministry 3rd Annual Cancer Awareness Symposium 'Our History, Our Health, Our Hope'. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation In Medical Interactions
PI: Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
19. Haidet P. Patient and Physician Explanatory Models of Illness: Can Congruence be Measured. Oral Presentation at the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies 'QOWW' Research in Progress Seminar. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
20. Haidet P, Hunt D, Coverdale J, Richards B, Seidel C. Team Learning in Medical Education. Innovations in Medical Education Exhibit at the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
PI: Boyd Richards
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030

21. Haidet P, O'Malley K, Aniol J, Sharf B, Gladney A, Street R, Tran A, Greisinger A. Patients' and Physicians' Explanatory Models of Healthcare: Can Congruence be Measured. Research and Education Forum of the American Academy on Physician and
 - Project Number:** 1P01HS10876
 - Project Title:** Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
 - PI:** Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
 - COE:** Houston
 - Awardee:** RCD 00-030
22. Haidet P, O'Malley K, Aniol J, Sharf B, Gladney A, Tran A, Greisinger A, Street R. A Tool to Measure Patients' and Physicians' Explanatory Models of Illness. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
 - Project Number:** 1P01HS10876
 - Project Title:** Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
 - PI:** Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
 - COE:** Houston
 - Awardee:** RCD 00-030
23. Haidet P, O'Malley K, Sharf B, Aniol J, Gladney A, Greisinger A. Links Between Terrorism and Health Perceptions of Patients. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
 - Project Number:** 1P01HS10876
 - Project Title:** Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
 - PI:** Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
 - COE:** Houston
 - Awardee:** RCD 00-030
24. Haidet P, Seidel C, Richards B, Schneider V. Introduction to Team Learning. University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine Annual Retreat for Education Faculty. San Francisco, CA 2002.
 - Project Number:** P116B00884
 - Project Title:** Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
 - PI:** Paul M. Haidet, MD, MPH
 - COE:** Houston
 - Awardee:** RCD 00-030
25. Howard J, Soucek J, Collins T. Ischemic Outcomes Assessment Survey for Patients with Peripheral Arterial Disease: A Pilot Study. Baylor College of Medicine Allied Health Student Research Day. Houston, Texas 2001.
 - Project Number:** XNV 33-024
 - Project Title:** Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
 - PI:** Tracie C. Collins, MD, MPH
 - COE:** Houston
 - Awardee:** XNV 33-024

26. Howard J, Soucek J, Collins T. Ischemic Outcomes Assessment Survey for Patients with Peripheral Arterial Disease: A Pilot Study. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality National Meeting. Bethesda, MD 2002.
Project Number: XNV 33-024
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: XNV 33-024
27. Johnson M. Pharmacoepidemiology: Methods and Applications to Health Services Research. Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies Weekly Conference. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Pharmacoepidemiology
PI: Michael L. Johnson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
28. Johnson M. Pharmacy Dispensing Patterns, Healthcare Costs and Utilization: A Study of Lansoprazole. Seminar, University of Texas at Austin, Center for Pharmacoeconomic Studies. Austin, TX 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: VISN 16 Drug Waste Study
PI: Michael L. Johnson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
29. Johnson M, Beyth R. Pharmacy Dispensing Patterns, Cost and Healthcare Utilization: A Study of Lansoprazole. International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) Conference. Arlington, VA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: VISN 16 Drug Waste Study
PI: Michael L. Johnson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
30. Johnson M, Beyth R. Pharmacological Guidelines and Actual Dispensing Patterns: A Study of GERD and Lansoprazole. Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: VISN 16 Drug Waste Study
PI: Michael L. Johnson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

31. Kelly P. Further Evaluation of Automated Essay Score Validity. National Council on Measurement in Education. New Orleans, LA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Further Evaluation of Automated Essay Score Validity
PI: P. Adam Kelly, PhD, MBA
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
32. Kressin N, Chang B, Orner M, Clark J, Rosen A, Ren X, East M, Kroupa L, Alley L, Whittle J, Petersen L. Racial Differences in Physician Perceptions of and Communication with Cardiac Patients. VA HSR&D Annual Meeting. Washington, DC
Project Number: ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variation in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
33. Kunik M, Snow A, Soucek J, Menke T, Ashton C. Health service use in dementia patients with aggression. American Geriatrics Society's 2002 Annual Scientific Meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
34. Liebschutz J, Haidet P, Arnold R, Charon R, Howell J, Inui T, Katz A, Morse D, Zickmund S. Qualitative Research Methods II: Exploring Methods of Analysis. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Qualitative Research
PI: J. Liebschutz
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
35. Liebschutz J, Haidet P, Arnould R, Morse D, Zickmund S, Inui T, Howell J, Charon R. Qualitative Research Methods I: Asking the Question and Gathering the Data. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Qualitative Research
PI: J. Liebschutz
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030

36. Maksymowych W, Cooper BL, Tao S, Suarez-Almazor M, Russell A. Interleukin 1-4, and TNF Alpha cytokine gene polymorphisms in palindromic rheumatism: No association with susceptibility or progression to rheumatoid arthritis. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: W. P. Maksymowych
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
37. Moran B, O'Malley K, Haidet P, Seidel C, Morgan R, Schneider V. Validation of an Observation Instrument for Measuring the Type and Amount of Student Engagement in the Health Professions Classroom. Annual Meeting of the Southern Group on Educational Affairs of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Charleston, SC 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Student Engagement in Health Professions
PI: B. Moran
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
38. Morgan R, Duque M, DeVito C. Low Intensity Exercise and Falls Risk Among a Clinically Defined Sample of At-Risk Elders. Department of Veterans Affairs Annual Health Services Research and Development Service Meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: IIR 20-052
Project Title: Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use By Minority and Low-Income Veterans
PI: Robert O. Morgan, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
39. Morgan R, Huang I. Use of surname matching to identify elderly Hispanic males in combined Medicare/VA data files. Department of Veterans Affairs Annual Health Services Research and Development Service Meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: IIR 20-052
Project Title: Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use By Minority and Low-Income Veterans
PI: Robert O. Morgan, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
40. Moy E, Haidet P, Trauth J, Perez-Stable E, Stryer D. Assessing the Impact of Patient-Physician Communication on Disparities in Health. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Disparities
PI: E. Moy
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030

41. O'Malley K, Haidet P, Sharf B, Ladd C, Collins T, Johnson M, Tran A, Chu S, Wray N. Trust in Physician, Facility, System: Qualitative differences between ethnic groups. 20th Annual VA Health Services Research Development meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: 1P01HS10876
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
42. Palacio H. New Options for Treating Opioid Addiction in a Primary Care Setting. Houston VA Medical Center Grand Rounds. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Opioid Addiction
PI: Herminia Palacio, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
43. Petersen L. Applying Health-Based Risk Adjusters to VA Budget Allocations: Why Does Money Shift When Compared to VERA. Invited Briefing, Dr Robert Roswell, VA Under Secretary for Health. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: XVA 33-027
Project Title: VERA DBAF Phase IV
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
44. Petersen L. Contrasting health-based and utilization-based methods of health care budget allocation. VERA Patient Classification Work Group, Las Vegas, NV. Las Vegas, NV
Project Number: XVA 33-027
Project Title: VERA DBAF Phase IV
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
45. Petersen L. Structuring healthcare payment systems to promote quality. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Advisory Committee. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: XNV 45-444
Project Title: Structuring Payment Systems to Promote Healthcare Quality
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
46. Petersen L. The application of Diagnostic Cost Groups in the Department of Veterans Affairs. VERA Patient Classification Work Group, Denver VAMC. Denver, CO 2002.
Project Number: XVA 33-027
Project Title: VERA DBAF Phase IV
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306

47. Petersen L. Using Risk Adjustment to Allocate VA Budgets. One VA Texas Meeting. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: XVA 33-025
Project Title: Using DCGs to Profile and Forecast Facility Budgets in VISN 5, 6,
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
48. Petersen L. VA DCG-plus. National VA Leadership Board. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: XVA 33-023
Project Title: Facility-Level Health-Based Capitation Method for VISN 5
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
49. Petersen L, Ashton C, Byrne M, Pietz K, Kuebeler M, Thompson M, Nelson H, Sookanan S, Wray N. Can VA Networks improve the fairness of budget allocations to their facilities. VA HSR&D Annual Meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: XVA 33-023
Project Title: Facility Level Health Based Capitation Method for VISN 5
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
50. Petersen L, Wright S, Petersen E, Daley J. Impact of race on cardiac care and outcomes in veterans with acute myocardial infarction. VA HSR&D Annual Meeting. Washington, DC 2002.
Project Number: IL12-96-007
Project Title: Myocardial Infarction and CABG Long-Term Follow-Up Study
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
51. Petersen N, Johnson M. VA and Non-VA Databases and Their Uses. New Faculty, Post-Doctoral Seminar Series, Houston Center of Excellence. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: VA and Non-VA Databases
PI: Nancy J. Petersen, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
52. Richards B, Seidel C, Schneider V, Haidet P. Applying Team Learning to Medical Education. Invited 2-day Educational Course at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Lubbock, TX 2002.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Services Education
PI: Boyd Richards
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030

53. Seidel C, Richards B, Haidet P, Schneider V. Introduction to Team Learning. Arizona State University. Arizona 2002.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Services Education
PI: Boyd Richards
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
54. Seidel C, Richards B, Haidet P, Schneider V. Introduction to Team Learning. Invited Workshop at the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine. Oklahoma 2002.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Services Education
PI: Boyd Richards
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
55. Seidel C, Richards B, Haidet P, Schneider V. Introduction to Team Learning. Annual Meeting of the Southern Group on Educational Affairs of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Charleston, South Carolina 2002.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Services Education
PI: Boyd Richards
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
56. Shah S, Lu L, Haidet P. A Patient with Bilateral Popliteal Aneurysms. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Bilateral Popliteal Aneurysms
PI: S. Shah
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030
57. Snow A. Coping with Your Feelings. Memorial Alzheimer's Association Support Group. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: R03MH64-033
Project Title: Severly Demented Individuals: Assessing Their Pain
PI: A. Lynn Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
58. Snow A. Assessment and Management of Pain in Non-communicative Individuals. St Luke's Episcopal Hospital Palliative Care Conference. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: R03MH64-033
Project Title: Severly Demented Individuals: Assessing Their Pain
PI: A. Lynn Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001

59. Snow A. Assessing and Managing Pain in Demented Individuals. Southwest Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center Geriatric Liaison Conference: Linking Research to Practice 2002.
Project Number: R03MH64-033
Project Title: Severly Demented Individuals: Assessing Their Pain
PI: A. Lynn Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
60. Snow A. Emotional Wellness and Stress Management. Baylor College of Medicine Huffington Center on Aging/Houstonian Healthy Aging Conference. Houston, TX 2002.
Project Number: R03MH64-033
Project Title: Severly Demented Individuals: Assessing Their Pain
PI: A. Lynn Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
61. Snow A, Hyer L, Norris M, Sohnle S, Casciani J, Karel M, Paret D. Mental Health Service Delivery in Long-Term Care Facilities. Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association. Chicago, IL 2002.
Project Number: R03MH64-033
Project Title: Severly Demented Individuals: Assessing Their Pain
PI: A. Lynn Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
62. Suarez-Almazor M. Quality of Life and Functional Status in Systemic Sclerosis. OMERACT VI. Gold Coast Australia 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Systemic Sclerosis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
63. Suarez-Almazor M, Ahn C, Friedman A, Fischbach M, McNearney T, Lisse J, Reveille J. Performance of outcome measures in systemic sclerosis (Ssc). American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

64. Suarez-Almazor M, Conner-Spady B. Preference-Based Classification Systems for the assessment of health-related quality of life (HRLQ) in patients with musculoskeletal disease. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
65. Suarez-Almazor M, DeGeus C, Homik J, Russell A. Failure to assess or manage osteoporosis (OP) following a hip fracture (HF). American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
66. Visnegarwala F, Wright J, Giordano T, Anooka A, Hasan Q. Effectiveness and durability of non-PI vs. PI-containing combination therapy in an antiretroviral (ARV) naive urban indigent population. XIV International AIDS Conference. Barcelona, Spain 2002.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Antiretroviral Therapy
PI: Thomas Giordano, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
67. Wang K, Snow A, Kunik M, Soucek J, Menke T, Ashton C. Precipitants of Aggression in Dementia Patients. Annual Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society. Washington, DC
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
68. Woodard L. Racial Disparities in Cholesterol Monitoring and Treatment for Secondary Prevention. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta,
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Racial Disparities
PI: LeChauncy Woodard, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee:

69. Woodard L. Racial Differences in Attitudes Regarding Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Treatment: A Qualitative Study. 25th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. Atlanta, GA 2002.
- Project Number:** ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
70. Woodard L, Kressin N, Petersen L. Perceived difficulty with medication use among patients with ischemic heart disease. Houston Health Services and Outcomes Research Conference. Houston, TX 2002.
- Project Number:** RCD 95-306
Project Title: Advanced Career Development Award
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306

Reports

1. Gordon H. Health Seeking Behavior and Treatment Selection in Patients with Coronary Disease. 2002 Jun 1.
Project Number: RCD 97-319
Project Title: Understanding and Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Variations in Health Care
PI: Howard S. Gordon, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-319

6 National and Regional Leadership Roles

The investigators at the Houston Center of Excellence are prominent leaders on national research committees, editorial review boards, in academic associations & institutions. Our investigators make a substantive contribution to advance science and promote VA HSR&D. The matrix below provides greater detail on the organizations and institutions that enjoy the expertise and leadership of our Center's investigators.

Scientist

Key Leadership Activities

Carol Ashton, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Mentor, HCQCUS: The Houston Center of Excellence.• Co-Editor-in-Chief, <i>Medical Care</i>, the official journal of the Medical care section of the American Public Health Association.• Editorial Board, Journal of General Internal Medicine (JGIM)
Nelda Wray, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Mentor, HCQCUS: The Houston Center of Excellence.• Member of the Texas Board on Aging• National Advisory Committee, VA HSR&D Service.• National Advisory Committee, US Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.• National Advisory Committee, Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars program.
Rebecca Beyth, MD, MS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief Operations Officer, Steering Committee, Anticoagulation-Thromboembolism Research Consortium, Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM)
Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-Director of Training, VA Fellowship Program in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology, VA South Central Mental Illness Research, Education, and clinical Center (MIRECC)
Laura Petersen, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair, Scientific Abstract Subcommittee, 2001 Annual Meeting.
Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director, Clinical Core, Center for Gastrointestinal Development, Infection, and Injury, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM).• Associate Editor, Evidence-Based Gastroenterology.
Lynn Snow, PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elected Convener, Mental Health and Aging Interest group, Gerontological Society of America.
Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultant, Epidemiology Section, National Academy of Medicine, Argentina.• Facilitator, Rheumatoid Arthritis Subgroup, Cochrane Collaboration.

This list represents only some of the major leadership efforts on the part of scientists in our organization. Membership on and participation in many other organizations is detailed in the provided table.

Leadership remains a core value in the Center. Our Investigators are committed to this value and actively seek opportunities for leadership in and outside the Center. Our objective for FY01 is to ensure each scientist and senior leader is a member of his or her respective discipline's nationally recognized group, society, or organization. It is through thoughtful leadership in such organizations that we will impact our industry and expand the reputation of health services research as a necessary element for constructive change in healthcare policy and practice.

6.1 National and Regional Leadership Roles (Table 4)

Houston Center of Excellence National and Regional Leadership Roles, FY 2002

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
C. Anderson PhD	American Psychological Association including Division 8-Personality and Social Psychology, Division 38- Health	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of Behavioral Medicine	AS	Member	No	5
	American College of Sports	AS	Member	No	5
C. Ashton MD MPH	American Public Health	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy	AS	Member	No	4,5
	Annals of Internal Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Circulation	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Health Services Research	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal	EB	Member, Editorial Board	No	3
	Medical Care	EB	Co-Editor-in-Chief	No	3,5
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Tenured Professor of Medicine and Medical Ethics	No	4,5
	Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies	EC	Director	Yes	1,2,4,5
	Houston VA Medical Center	EC	Staff Physician, General Medicine Section	Yes	4
	Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center	EC	Deputy Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development	Yes	1,2,3,4
	The University of Texas School of Public Health	EC	Adjunct Associate Professor, Health Services Organizations	No	4,5
	VA HSR&D Service	VAN	Member, Liason Committee, VA HSR&D and VISNs	Yes	1,2,5
	VA Research and Development Service	VAN	Ad Hoc grant proposal reviewer	Yes	2
R. Beyth MD MS	The Steering Committee for the Anticoagulation - Thromboembolism Research Consortium (AT-RC), The Society	AS	Chief Operations Officer	No	3
	American Geriatrics Society	AS	Member	No	5
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	American Journal of Managed	EB	Reviewer	No	3

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
R. Beyth MD MS	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Drugs and Aging	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Cardiology	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Internal Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Houston VAMC	EC	Staff Physician, General Medicine Service	Yes	2
	Houston VAMC	EC	Staff Physician, General Medicine Consultation Service	Yes	4
U. Braun MD	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Assistant Professor of Medicine	No	4,5
	American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine	AS	Member	No	5
	American Geriatric Society	AS	Member	No	5
	Henry Ford Medical Association	AS	Member	No	6
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	The Gerontological Society of America	AS	Member	No	6
	Journal of American Geriatrics Society	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	5
M. Byrne PhD	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Assistant Professor of Medicine, Section of Geriatrics	No	5
	Medical Care	AS	Reviewer	No	5
	American Economics Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Association for Health Services Research	AS	Member	No	5
	The Lancet	AS	Reviewer	No	5
	International Health Economics Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies	EC	Assistant Director for Education	Yes	1,3,4
	VA CHF QUERI	VAN	Member	Yes	2
S. Chu PhD MA BA	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Instructor	No	4
T. Collins MD MPH	American Medical Association	AS	Member	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
T. Collins MD MPH	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	Women Veterans Health	VAN	Member	No	5
	Minority Veterans Committee	VAN	Member	No	5
K. Cook PhD MA	American Psychology Association Division of Evaluation, Measurement & Statistics	AS	Member	No	3,5
	National Council on Measurement in Education	AS	Member	No	5
	Sigma Xi Scientific Research	AS	Board Representative	No	4
	American Educational Research Association	RG	Reviewer, Rasch Special Interest Group	No	3,5
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Journal of Applied Measurement	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
J. Davila PhD MS BS	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Instructor	No	5
	Society for Epidemiologic	AS	Member	No	5
	American Public Health	AS	Member	No	5
	The American Journal of	EB	Reviewer	No	5
A. Deswal MD	Heart Failure Society of America	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor of Medicine	No	4,5
	American Heart Association	AS	Member	No	5
	VA CHF QUERI	EC	Member , Core Director for New Research	No	2,5
	American Journal of Managed	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Clinical Practice Guidelines for	VAN	Reviewer	No	3,4
	Houston VAMC	VAR	Staff Physician, Department of Medicine, Section of Cardiology	Yes	4,5
N. Dunn PhD	International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies	AS	Member	No	5
	Houston Psychological Society	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological	AS	Member	No	4
	Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy	AS	Member	No	5
	Houston VAMC	AS	Clinical Psychologist, Trauma Recovery Program	Yes	3,4

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
N. Dunn PhD	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral	No	5
	Gerontological Society of America	AS	Member	No	5
	University of Houston, Dept. of Psychology	RG	Dissertation Committee member	No	4
	VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI)	VAN	Member, Executive Committee on Mental Health	Yes	1,2,5
	Association of VA Psychologist Leaders	VAN	Member	Yes	5
	VA South Central MIRECC	VAR	Faculty	Yes	1,5
	Houston VAMC	VAR	Member, Internship Training Committee Mental Health Care	Yes	4
	VA South Central MIRECC	VAR	Co-Director, VA Special Fellowship in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology	Yes	4,5
	VA South Central MIRECC	VAR	Member, PTSD Research Group	Yes	1,5
H. El-Serag MD	American Association for Study of Liver Disease	AS	Member	No	6
	American Gastroenterology Association	AS	Member	No	6
	American College of Gastroenterology	AS	Member	No	6
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	6
	American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Research Committee	EB	Reviewer	No	6
	American Journal of Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Digestive and Liver Disease	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Digestive Diseases and Sciences	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Evidence Based Gastroenterology	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Helicobacter	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Hepatology	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Annals of Epidemiology	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Pharmacoeconomics	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Journal of Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
H. El-Serag MD	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Clinical Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
M. Ford PhD MS MSW	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research	No	5
K. Garibaldi MD BA	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Instructor	No	4
T. Giordano MD BS	Infectious Disease Society of America	AS	Member	No	3
	HIV Medicine Association	AS	Member	No	3
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor of Medicine	No	5
L. Goetzl MD MPH	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology	No	5
H. Gordon MD SB	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	Veterans Administration	VAN	Millenium Rainbow Force/Risk Stratification Task Force	Yes	6
	HVAMC	VAR	DSS Clinical Steering Committee	Yes	6
	HVAMC	VAR	VA Research Information Resources Subcommittee	Yes	4
P. Haidet MD MPH	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor of Medicine	No	5
	Emory School of Medicine	AS	Member: The Ad Hoc Group on Teaching Humanism at the Bedside, American Academy on Physician and Patient, William T. Branch, Carter Smith Sr. Professor of Medicine	No	2
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	Alpha Omega Alpha	AS	Member	No	5
	American Academy on Physician and Patient	EB	Journal Watch Editor, Medical Educator	No	5
	Society of General Internal	RG	National Meeting Medical Education Workshop Selection Committee	No	5
	Academy of Health Services Research and Health Policy	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
M. Johnson PhD	Houston VA Medical Center	EC	Member, R&D Review Committee	Yes	3,5
	Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies	EC	Associate Director	Yes	1,2,4,5
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Houston VAMC	VAR	National Committee for Quality Assurance IRB site visit	Yes	2,3
	Houston VAMC	VAR	Member, Pharmacy and Therapeutics sub-committee for Costs	Yes	2
P. Kelly PhD MBA	American Education Research Association	AS	Member	No	6
	Florida Educational Research Association	AS	Member	No	5
	American Evaluation Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Instructor, Department of	No	5
	Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	US Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)	NB	Grant Application Reviewer	No	3,6
M. Kunik MD MPH	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral	No	5
	American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology	AS	Member, Committee for Recertification in Geriatric Psychiatry	No	6
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Department of Psychiatry, Resident Recruitment	No	4
	Study Section VA HSR&D Nurse Research Initiative	RG	Reviewer	Yes	4,5,6
	Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center	VAR	Co-Director, MIRECC Fellowship in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology	Yes	4,5
	Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center	VAR	Clinical Geropsychiatry Research Core Leader	Yes	1,2,3,4,5
L. McCullough PhD	National Institutes of Health	EC	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Committee	No	3
	Atrial Fibrillation Follow-up Investigation of Rhythm	EC	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Board	No	3
	National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute	NB	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Board	No	3

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
T. Menke PhD	Tampa VAMC	EC	Consultant	Yes	5
	Health Services Research	EC	Reviewer	No	1,5
	VA Health Economics Resource Center	EC	Expert Panel Member	Yes	1,4,5,6
	VA Executive Committee	EC	Member	Yes	1
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	The American Journal of Managed Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Inquiry	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Health Affairs	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	AHRQ-Health Care Research Training Study Section	RG	Member	No	3,5
	Houston VAMC	VAR	Reviewer	Yes	3,5
R. Morgan PhD	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine	No	5
	American Public Health	AS	Member	No	5
	Academy of Health Services Research	AS	Member	No	5
	National Technical Advisory Board for VA/Medicare Data Project	EC		Yes	2,3
	American Journal of Managed	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of Chronic Fatigue	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of Traumatic Stress	RG	Reviewer	No	3
K. O'Malley PhD MS BS	Society of Clinical Trials	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological Association Division 5 Measurement Special Interest	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor	No	2,3,5
	American Psychological Association Division 38 Health Psychology Special Interest Group	AS	Member	No	5
	National Institutes of Health Placebo Workshop	CL	Panelist	No	3,5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
K. O'Malley PhD MS BS	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	4,5
	Psychological Methods	EB	Reviewer	No	4,5
	Deapartment of Veterans Affairs	VAR	Research Health Science	Yes	2,3,4,5
	Houston Center for Quality Control of Care and Utilization Studies	VAR	Research Health Science	Yes	2,3,4,5
H. Palacio MD MPH	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor	No	2,5
	American Coillage of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	American Public Health	AS	Member	No	5
	Addiction Research	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	AIDS	EB	Ad-hoc Reviewer	No	3
	Journail of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	5
D. Paterniti PhD	Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction	AS	Member	No	5
	Pacific Sociological Association	AS	Presidential Panel Organizer	No	4
	American Sociological	AS	Special Section Memberships: Medical Sociology, Social Psychology, Sociology of Emotions	No	5
	American Sociological	AS	Roundtable Organizer/Presider	No	4
	American Sociological	AS	Presidential Panel Organizer/Presider	No	4
	American Sociological	AS	Elected council member, Medical Sociology Section	No	3
	Pacific Sociological Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Society for the Study of Social Problems	AS	Member	No	5
	Yale University	RG	Member, Dissertation Committee: Sociology of the Body	No	4
	Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction	RG	Committee Member: Mead Award - Recognition of Lifetime Achievement in Social	No	6
	Rice University	RG	Honors Thesis Committee	No	4
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
D. Paterniti PhD	American Sociological	RG	Committee Chair: Medical Sociology Dissertation Award	No	3
	Social Problems	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Social Science and Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Department of Veteran Affairs	VAN	Member of Advisory Panel, Colon Cancer QUERI	Yes	1
	HVAMC	VAR	Satratgeic Planning Committee	Yes	4
	Texas Medical Center	VAR	News Article Expert	Yes	2,3
L. Petersen MD	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Research Committee	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Chair, Abstract Review Committee, Annual Scientific	No	5
	American Heart Association	AS	Plenary Session Working Group, Outcomes and Quality of Care Conference	No	5
	VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative	VAN	Executive Committee on Ischemic Heart Disease	Yes	1,2,5
N. Petersen PhD	Congestive Heart Failure Quality Enhancement Research Initiative Executive Committee	EC	Member	Yes	3,5
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	American Heart Association	RG	Member, Peer Review Group	No	3,5
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Quality Enhancement Research Initiative Data Issues Workgroup	VAN	Member	Yes	5
L. Rabeneck MD MPH	American Gastroenterological Association	AS	Member, Clinical Practice Program Committee	No	5
	American Gastroenterological Association	AS	Chair, Abstract Review Committee (Dyspepsia), Annual Scientific Meeting	No	3
	American Gastroenterological Association	AS	Teaching Faculty, Academic Skills Workshop Training Initiative for Junior Faculty in	No	5
	American College of Gastroenterology	AS	Member, Board of Trustees	No	3,5
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Tenured Associate Professor of Medicine	No	4
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Gastroenterology	RG	Member, Editorial Board	No	3

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
L. Rabeneck MD MPH	Gastrointestinal Endoscopy	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of Clinical Epidemiology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	New England Journal of Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	The Journal of the American Medical Association	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
A. Snow PhD	Psychologists in Long Term Care	AS	Research Chair	No	6
	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Journal of Gerontology	EB	Ad-hoc Reviewer	No	3
	Mental Health and Aging Informal Interest Group, Gerontological Society of America	NB	Convener	No	3,5
	VA VISN 16 Mental Illness, Research, Education and Clinical Center Pilot Program	VAR	Reviewer	Yes	2,5
J. Soucek PhD	International Biometrics Society (ENAR)	AS	Member	No	5
	Society for Clinical Trials	AS	Member	No	5
	American Statistical Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine	No	4
	Journal of Clinical Outcomes Management	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Epidemiology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of the American Medical Association	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Data and Safety	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	VA HSR&D	VAR	Statistical mentor for post-doctoral fellows and BCM	Yes	4,5
M. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine	No	5
	American College of	AS	Member	No	6
	Canadian Rheumatology	AS	Member	No	6

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
M. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD	Society for Medical Decision	AS	Member	No	5,6
	International Society for Health Technology Assessment	AS	Member	No	6
	International League against Rheumatism Pediatric Task Force	CL	Member	No	5
	OMERACT Health Economics Task Force	CL	Member	No	5
	Revista Mexicana de	EB	Reviewer	No	5
	Cochrane Collaboration	EB	Facilitator	No	3,6
	Medical Research Council	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Canadian Institute for Health Research	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Wellcome Trust (UK)	RG	Reviewer	No	5
L. Woodard MD	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Instructor	No	4
N. Wray MD MPH	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Member, Dept. of Medicine Executive Faculty Committee	No	6
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Member, Faculty Committee on Awards	No	6
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Professor of Medical Ethics, Center for Medical Ethics and	No	5
	Association for Health Services Research	AS	Member	No	5
	American Public Health	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Professor of Medicine	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	CL	Member, Full-time Faculty Promotions Committee	No	6
	VA Health Services and Research and Development National Advisory Group	EC	Member	Yes	3,5
	Texas Department of Aging	EC	Governor appointed Member of the Board	No	5
	Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars National Advisory Committee	EC		No	6
	National Advisory Council for the Agency for Health Care Policy, Research and Evaluation	NB	Member	No	3,5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
N. Wray MD MPH	Archives of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Department of Veterans Affairs, A Randomized Controlled Trial of Radical Prostatectomy versus Watchful Waiting in Patients with Clinically Localized Carcinoma of the Prostate	VAN	Data Monitoring Board	Yes	2
	Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Quality Management, National Database Design	VAN	Scientific Consultant	Yes	2
	Houston VA Medical Center	VAR	Medical Staff Leadership	Yes	6
	QUERI Research and Methodology Committee	VAR	Member	Yes	3
M. York PhD MA BS	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine	No	5

* VHA National Committee (VAN), VA Regional/Network Committee (VAR), Academic Society (AS), Consensus Conference or Clinical Guidelines Development Committee (CL), Study Section or other Research Review Group (RG), Editorial Board (EB), Executive or Advisory Committee for a Research Program or National Study (EC), National Policy Board (NB)

** (1) Setting a VA research agenda, (2) oversight of a VA research product, national policy related to patient care, (3) oversight of a research product with national importance, (4) input to training of VA staff or potential researchers, (5) input to the general area of health services research, (6) national leadership of a clinical and/or academic program.

7 Training Activities

The scope of the Houston Center's training activity has increased significantly over the last years. In addition to the post-doctoral fellowship program, the training mission of the Section includes: MIRECC fellows training, clinical fellows training, formal pre-doctoral research internships, emphasis on training of and collaboration with minority students and faculty, increased VA and non-VA career development awards and fellowships, and institutional training grants. In addition, this year the Houston Center developed a committee to examine the Center's mentoring practices, and a formal Mentoring Policy was developed and implemented. These efforts are described below. The VA HSR&D post-doctoral program design is the blueprint for many of the other programs, and so will be described at greater length.

OAA-funded Post-doctoral Program

The Center's VA HSR&D post-doctoral training program is designed to create an environment in which post-doctoral fellows can mature into independent health services researchers capable of and interested in pursuing research that will contribute to the ability of the Department of Veterans Affairs to fulfill its health care mission. At the Center, trainees work closely with a mentoring team. This team includes: a Primary Mentor (an established researcher with a common research interests); the Education Director (to monitor the quality of the mentoring relationships and serves as a liaison for any mentoring team difficulties); one or two other researchers with methodological or content area expertise important for the trainees' progress; and (if the Primary Mentor is a junior faculty member) a Senior Mentor is included to "mentor the mentor" and guide the team regarding big-picture career issues. Post-doctoral fellows are included in all activities of the Center's investigators, in accordance with the fellowship's purpose of producing independent health services researchers. In addition, a bi-weekly Foundations in Health Services Research seminar series provides introductory information on the Center's procedures, the US and VA health care systems, academic medicine and career advancement guidelines, and topics in health services research.

Since 1994, 9 trainees have entered the fellowship program, 8 of which completed at least one year of fellowship training. Many have had research that was completed during the fellowship period published in refereed journals. Dr. Brian Geisler, who completed his second post-doctoral year in 1995, is currently an Assistant Research Scientist at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis in the School of Medicine. Dr. Jan Mary Hale Risser, who completed a post-doctoral year in 1996, is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas School of Public Health. Dr. Karon Cook, who finished a post-doctoral year in 1997, is currently Associate Director for Research, Houston VA Parkinsons Disease Research, Education, and Clinical Center. Dr. Makoto Hanita, who finished his second post-doctoral year in 1998, is a Research Associate at the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory. Dr. Rose Colon, who finished her second post-doctoral year in 1999, is an Assistant professor in the department to Psychology at Michigan State University. Dr. James Stacks, who completed a year of post-doctoral fellowship, joined the Center as a research team leader, but had to withdraw soon after due to serious illness. Three of the above fellows were subsequently recruited as Center research team leaders when their fellowship was completed due to their outstanding performance and the need for the expertise at the Center (Brian Geisler Ph.D., Karon Cook Ph.D., and James Stacks Ph.D.).

In late FY 00, Dr. Julie Aniol began the first year of a fellowship position. Dr. Aniol is a clinical psychologist who is interested in economic aspects of mental health interventions and treatment, particularly in the workplace. Dr. Aniol successfully completed her two-year fellowship in July 2002. She has attained employment as a workplace consultant, which is consistent with her interests in mental health in the workplace. She continues to be affiliated with the Center as a co-investigator on two grants, and plans to submit an NIH grant application in October 2002 that represents her writing efforts during her last year of fellowship. During Dr. Aniol's tenure at the Center, as well as participating in the Center's training activities, Dr. Aniol completed classes in health economics and field epidemiology at the University of Texas School of Public Health. At the February 2001 Annual meeting of the VA HSR&D Centers, Dr. Aniol's poster received an award of Highest Scientific Merit in the Post-Doctoral Poster competition. Dr. Aniol is a key participant on several ongoing and pending research projects in the Center, including as a co-investigator on the recently funded NIH R01 grant, "Cognitive Behavioral Determinants in Knee Replacement" (M. Suarez-Almazor, P.I.). Dr. Aniol has also submitted her own grant proposal "Developing Procedures to Identify Mental Health Disorders in the Workplace" to the NIMH. Finally, Dr. Aniol has submitted one manuscript as first author, "Characteristics of Patients Who

Benefit from Mental Health Treatment,” under review, Family Practice.

In July 2001, Jessica Davila PhD began her appointment as an OAA funded fellow. Dr. Davila is an epidemiologist. In the past year she has presented four abstracts at national conferences, submitted four manuscripts (two of which she is first author), and has two more manuscripts in preparation. She submitted and received VA HSR&D Pilot Funding (LIP) for her project, Impact of surgical volume on outcomes of colorectal cancer. She has also served as co-investigator on four grant applications, one of which has been funded and three of which are pending. Her interests have evolved in the past year in the areas of colorectal and hepatocellular carcinoma and Medicare-VA co-utilization. Dr. Davila will join the Houston Center as faculty in November 2002.

Other Postdoctoral Training Programs

In FY02, the South Central Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) was awarded a Special Mental Illness Research Fellowship Program in Advanced Psychology/Psychiatry. This program includes two slots per year (one for a psychologist and one for a psychiatrist) and has a health services research track and a neuroscience track. The Houston Center is proud to support the health services research track by housing that fellow in the Center, providing infrastructure support, and most importantly, providing mentoring support. Dr. Serena Chu joined the Center in FY02 as the first psychology MIRECC fellow in the health services track. In addition to participating in MIRECC and Center training activities, Dr. Chu has taken two classes at the University of Texas School of Public Health: Statistical Methods in Epidemiological Research, and Introduction to Qualitative Research. She has two manuscripts in preparation. She submitted a MIRECC Pilot Grant, PTSD among African American Vietnam Veterans, for which she has been invited to revise and resubmit. Finally, she presented three posters at national meetings and completed all requirements for psychology licensure.

In FY02, the Houston Center participated in the training of two clinical fellows: Dr. LeChauncy Woodward and Dr. Karen Garibaldi. Both are funded through a HRSA training grant held by Dr. David Hyman at Baylor College of Medicine. Both fellows are committed to careers as health services researchers. These fellows are participating in all aspects of our post-doctoral training program and are being mentored by Center faculty.

Dr. Woodard is entering her third year of fellowship being mentored in the Center. Her research interests are in quality of care, chronic disease prevention and treatment, racial disparities in health outcomes. In addition to participating in Center training activities, Dr. Woodard has completed classes in Field Epidemiology and Administration and Public Health this year at the University of Texas School of Public Health, and defended a thesis thus completing the requirements for an MPH. She has submitted two manuscripts this year, both as first author. She has had three abstracts accepted this year and has presented her research at three conferences. She has received one grant this year from VA HSR&D (Locally Initiated Project) entitled Health Status and Adherence to Medication Regimens in Patients with Established Coronary Heart Disease, and has submitted one other grant as part of an NIH Center grant.

Dr. Garibaldi joined the Center as a mentee in February 2002. Her main area of interest is in transitioning children with chronic disease from their pediatric to adult health care providers using qualitative methodology. In addition to participating in Center training activities, Dr. Garibaldi has taken several classes at UT School of Public Health as part of her MPH program: Biometry, Qualitative Methods, Man's Impact on the Environment, Health Services Delivery and Performance, Public Health Administration, and Survey Research Methods. She has one research project in progress.

Other Training Programs

In FY02, as in the previous year, Houston Center received several applications and queries concerning pre-doctoral training positions. Because we do not have a funded position for pre-doctoral students, we generally cannot provide monetary support for these students unless they are eligible for minority or other supplemental funding. However, this year we have begun a new program in which we have committed small funds to initiate relationships with particularly promising students, with the understanding that Center investigators mentoring these students would obtain other sources of funding for them as soon as possible. Louise Quijano, a social worker in a behavioral science doctoral program, and Pay-Shin Lin, a public health doctoral student, have joined the Center under this initiative as formal pre-doctoral interns.

Collaborative research and methodological mentoring has continued between faculty at Texas Southern University, a Historically Black College, and faculty at the Center. Dr. Nora Osemene, under the mentoring of Dr. Robert Morgan of the Houston Center, has completed a year of a VA Minority Supplement Grant to Dr. Morgan's VA funded study entitled "Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans," and is being mentored in health services research by several Center faculty. Her accomplishments in the past year include participation in survey instrument development and refinement on Dr. Morgan's above-mentioned grant, and serving as a co-investigator with another Center investigator on the VA HSR&D Investigator Initiated Grant Proposal submitted May 2002, "Use of VA Pharmacy Services by Medicare Enrolled Veterans." She has also received a seed grant from Texas Southern University to further her work in pharmacy health services research. Training activities include participating as a member of the Center's Health Services Research pre-submission review (all grants submitted by the Center are first reviewed for scientific merit using NIH review guidelines by Center investigators participating in this subcommittee), and reviewing an article for the journal Medical Care. Finally, Dr. Osemene attended several seminars to further her methodological training: Academy of Health Services Research Seminars in Health Services Research Methods using Federal and State Databases including: Medicare/Medicaid; NHIS, National Health Care Surveys, and Pharmacists' role in addressing Health Disparities and Barriers to Care.

During the fiscal year, the IDEAL Core of the Houston Center's AHRQ P01 grant has developed the Baylor/EXCEED Health Services Research Enrichment Program. The program, scheduled for implementation in November 2002, will offer graduate students and junior faculty seminars and scholarly exchange in health services research. The program will focus on health disparities research, racial and ethnic variation research, pharmaceutical health services research, and doctor-patient communication research. The IDEAL Core will make a concerted effort to recruit students and faculty from Texas Southern University and Prairie View A&M University, two Historically Black Colleges in the Houston area.

Plans to Expand Center Training Activities

Because training is an important priority, in FY02 the Houston Center has submitted two grant applications to expand its training activities. The EXPORT application, submitted to NIH, would provide for predoctoral and junior faculty training activities in health disparities research for students and junior faculty from minority institutions. An application submitted to AHRQ would provide for predoctoral and postdoctoral training activities in health services research.

Finally, Baylor College of Medicine, led by the Houston VA HSR&D, is competing to become a Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Clinical Scholars Training Program site. Dr. Carol M. Ashton and Dr. Nelda P. Wray are spearheading Baylor College of Medicine's effort to bring this nationally recognized program to Houston, Texas to be housed with and administered by the Houston VA HSR&D. Under the leadership of Drs. Ashton and Wray, a site application committee was formed and weekly meetings were convened throughout February and March. The committee included Houston VA HSR&D Investigators Drs. Rebecca Beyth, Howard Gordon, Paul Haidet, Michael Johnson, Adam Kelly, Mark Kunik, Herminia Palacio, Laura Petersen, Lynn Snow, and Maria Suarez-Almazor. In mid-February, eight members of the group traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the RWJ Submissions Workshop to formulate a clearer picture of what was expected in an application. The bulk of the committee's work following the trip focused on the topic areas of curriculum, health policy, and leadership and the methods to deliver these critical subjects to the scholars. The preliminary application was reviewed in the spring of 2002, and was approved. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation requested a full application, which was submitted in August 2002. A site visit will occur in November 2002, and final sites will be announced by the end of the year. The selected sites will implement the program in July of 2005.

Advantages of becoming one the final sites include the infusion of physician scholars into the Center, an enlargement of the Center's postdoctoral educational program which will allow for a stronger cohort identity of the fellows, and significant funds for infrastructure of the Center's educational endeavors, allowing the Center to continue to grow the educational program.

Significant Impacts of Training Programs

The Center's OAA-funded and other training programs most significant impact is in training highly skilled independent health services researchers. This research informs both the VA system as a whole and individual health care providers in how health care in the VA can be the best in the country and efficiently

provided. The Center's programs are designed to train new investigators whose research will advance knowledge and practice in the determinants of health services use, quality assessment, outcome measures of quality and effectiveness, and patient-centered care. A distinguishing feature of the Center's research is the focus not just upon quality or utilization alone, but upon the relation between quality of care and utilization of health services. Instilling commitment to research that is not only high quality, but also can be used to improve health care for veterans and all people, is a primary objective of the Center's training programs.

Enhancement of Training Programs

A yearly or biannual meeting of Directors of OAA-funded programs in Health Services Research would be an extremely valuable way to raise the overall quality of the VA's postdoctoral training programs. Directors would have the opportunity to exchange information on training programs, recruitment, postdoctoral curriculum, and other aspects of the OAA training programs. Best practices and pitfalls could be shared and experience from one program disseminated to the others. Our Center believes this would greatly enhance the training programs at all of the Centers.

An OAA initiative to educate graduate programs in disciplines important to health services research about the opportunities available in a health services research career would be of great benefit to all HSR&D Postdoctoral Programs. Our Center finds that promising graduates of many programs (especially anthropology, sociology, and economics) are difficult to recruit to HSR&D postdoctoral positions because (a) these students are unaware of the potential of HSR careers and (b) these students often have faculty position opportunities straight out of graduate school and so are reluctant to take a postdoctoral position.

7.1 Trainee Listing

Post-Doctoral Fellow Trainee(s) - COE Houston, TX

Aniol, Julie PhD

Fellow Type (original): **HSR&D**
Project Agency ID(s) Assigned: **TPP 33-009**
Title Of Original Training: **Associated Health Professions Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program**
Title Of Dissertation: **Cost savings of Mental Health Interventions: A Meta-Analytic Review of the Cost Offset Effect**
Training Start Date: **7/2000** Training End Date: **7/2002**
Terminal Degree: **PhD** Terminal Degree Date: **5/2000**
Number of Peer-Reviewed Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):
Number of "Other" Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):
Number of Funded Research Projects as PI or Co-Inv (since initiation of the traineeship): **1**
Post Graduation VA Employment Facility/Site ID: **580** Hospital: **VA Medical Center**
Current Employer Name and Location: **VA Medical Center, Houston, TX**
Current Employment Position Title: **Post-doctoral Fellow**

Post-Doctoral Fellow Trainee(s) - COE Houston, TX

Davila, Jessica PhD MS BS

Fellow Type (original): **HSR&D**

Project Agency ID(s) Assigned:

Title Of Original Training Program: **Associated Health Professions Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program**

Title Of Dissertation: **Evaluating treatment variation for early stage breast cancer patients in Iowa: Physician characteristics and patient variables that influence surgical referral decisions**

Training Start Date: **7/2001** Training End Date: **11/2002**

Terminal Degree: **PhD** Terminal Degree Date: **5/2001**

Number of Peer-Reviewed Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):

Number of "Other" Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):

Number of Funded Research Projects as PI or Co-Inv (since initiation of the traineeship): **4**

Post Graduation VA Employment Facility/Site ID: **580** Hospital: **VA Medical Center**

Current Employer Name and Location: **VA Medical Center, Houston, TX**

Current Employment Position Title: **Post-doctoral Fellow**